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Speeches by SFRY's Mamula 'Contradictory'

AU201350 Tirana ATA in English
0750 GMT 20 Dec 87

[Text] Tirana, December 20 (ATA)—As it is reported by the press, some time ago Admiral Mamula expressed the Army's worries on the political and social situation in Yugoslavia and demanded that the necessary measures for its improvement be taken.

In various political circles both inside and outside of Yugoslavia, as well as in numerous press comments, these statements sounded as a warning to take power on the part of the Army. Whereas Yugoslav officials tried to explain that the statements of the federal secretary of defence were misunderstood.

But, again the military men appeared on stage. TANJUG news agency published on December 17 the summary of a speech that Admiral Branko Mamula delivered before the Yugoslav Assembly. At this meeting, as the Yugoslav news agency points out, concerning the worsening of the social situation in Yugoslavia and expressing "the opinions of the military men," Admiral Mamula blamed nationalism, which, as he said "has assumed alarming proportions and objectively threatens the whole country with consequences unless we bar its way." Likewise, Admiral Mamula launched a powerful attack against all those who fear the political aims and hegemonic actions of Serbia's leadership. He stated that "the Army's constitution is against those who proclaim these tendencies as 'unitarianism'."

The attention of various observers was attracted also by the fact that the Admiral Mamula, on one side said that the "conference of the six Balkan states is very encouraging because it would serve the strengthening of the mutual trust," while on the other side, he accused Yugoslavia's neighbouring countries of territorial claims and of a policy for its disintegration.

The ever more frequent public criticisms by Admiral Mamula about the existing political and social system and about the threats allegedly coming to Yugoslavia from abroad confirm the doubts on the possibility of establishing the military administration in Kosovo and all over the country.

AWP Paper Criticizes Media Weaknesses

AU211745 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT
in Albanian 16 Dec 87 p 3-4

[Prof Hamit Beqja article: "Propaganda, Information, Culture"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Our party directs the entire life of the nation. Its propaganda is therefore tied to every aspect of the entire life of the people. It must therefore provide more information about all these aspects, drawn from daily life as it is lived, with topical domestic and international issues, and the latest developments in politics and the economy, production and culture, and science and technology.

It is obvious that under these circumstances the tasks faced by our propaganda, in all the media, are growing daily. We need well-argued analyses relevant to the problems of the day and to people's demands and inquiries. At the same time the influence of propaganda must not fail to be accompanied with fuller information about society, to keep it up-to-date. We all know that this is accumulating at a "breakneck" pace.

Our propaganda media have embarked on this road, and are straining to achieve these very objectives. But in the course of these efforts, they are still enslaved, sometimes even seriously so, to some old official, bureaucratic, anachronistic, and obsolete molds, which do not attract readers and listeners, and may even depress and alienate them.

It is not seldom that we encounter articles, radio and television programs, and even books, where the issues discussed are presented in a very overly-generalized way, with repetitious phrases and overly-long preambles, which evade issues instead of tackling them by the horns, which avoid "sharp edges" and opposing views, and gloss over issues in a way that shows no skill. Such articles lack creative courage on the author's part, and show no intellectual skill or civil consciousness in confronting problems. His personal opinions, attitudes, and revolutionary and critical feelings remain obscure. Such articles and programs are neither chalk nor cheese. The reader or listener can become apathetic, and even disillusioned.

In criticizing these weaknesses, the party has at the same time demanded that our propaganda media convey as much information as possible. The extremely dynamic developments of modern society demand even more concentrated information, more rich and varied in both quantity and quality. When the reader or listener finds this, he gains a sense of intellectual and moral satisfaction, and also grasps more quickly the ideas being conveyed. In this way propaganda becomes more effective and fruitful.

Yet we cannot fail to admit that there is very little information in many propaganda discussions. After reading them, a person can wonder "What have I learned that is new?", and find it difficult to give an answer, especially when he makes a comparison with some deep and up-to-date article he may have come across.

Many articles in various genres, and many radio and television programs do not analyze issues in an "approachable" way, and there is no feeling of keeping the public in mind. There are often features and broadcasts that are considered "professional" and specialized, on particular themes. They often mean nothing to readers among the masses, who may not even bother to read them. [passage omitted]

Solidarity Committee Condemns Israeli Actions
AU212049 Sofia BTA in English
1939 GMT 21 Dec 87

["Protest Against Israeli Terror"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, December 21 (BTA)—The Committee For Solidarity With the Peoples of Asia and Africa and the Society For Bulgaro-Palestinian Friendship have issued a statement in connection with the growing tension in the Arab territories occupied by Israel.

Tel Aviv's illusions that terror, repression and occupation, contradicting international law, will force the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese patriotic forces to give up their struggle for freedom, are constantly escalating the explosion-prone situation in the region. The actions of the Israeli militarism come to prove that a new venture is under preparation, a new aggression aimed at demobilizing, at spreading fear and pessimism among the Palestinians, among all Arab peoples, the document reads.

The Bulgarian public, which is well-acquainted with the Palestinian problem and is closely following its development, was always convinced that without its just solution there can be no lasting peace in the Middle East. And the only way to this just solution is the realization of the Soviet proposal for convening an international conference under UN aegis with the participation of all interested states including the PLO, the only legal representative of the Palestinian people.

The statement expresses indignation over the attempts to crush by force the people's protest on the Western Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip and condemns the 20-year long Israeli occupation and the terrorist actions of the Zionist aggressors and their agents in south Lebanon against the peaceful Lebanese population and the Palestinian camps.

On behalf of the Bulgarian public, the Committee For Solidarity With the Peoples of Asia and Africa and the Society For Bulgaro-Palestinian Friendship insist on the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli occupational troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and after that, on the realization of the legal rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state, to return to their homes and to the establishment of a lasting, just and stable peace in the region.

Stanishev-led Delegation Visits Angola
AU212013 Sofia BTA in English
1948 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Luanda, December 21 (BTA)—A delegation of the CC of the BCP, headed by Mr Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP, which visited Angola, met the chairman of the South West African People's Organization [SWAPO], Mr Sam Nujoma and the secretary general of the organization Mr Andimba Toivo ja Toivo.

The leaders of SWAPO spoke of the struggle of the Namibian people against the South African regime which has occupied Namibia and refuses to observe Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council. They stressed that SWAPO is stepping up its political and armed actions and that at the same time it is increasing its diplomatic activities for rallying the world public in support of the just cause of the Namibian people.

The talks stressed the groundlessness of the demand of the imperialist forces and the racists for the withdrawal of the Cuban volunteers from Angola as a precondition for Namibia's independence.

The Bulgarian side pointed out the solidarity of the BCP and the Bulgarian people with the people of Namibia and with its only legal representative—SWAPO.

The talks stressed the mutual readiness for further promoting the relations between the BCP and SWAPO.

Officials Attend Khaskovo Oblast Conference
AU211222 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 17 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] Khaskovo, 16 December (RABOTNICHESKO DELO reporters, team)—The constituent BCP Oblast Conference held here today, was attended by 687 delegates. Pencho Kubadinski, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Fatherland Front Central Council, and Stoyan Markov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Committee on Quality, were among those present.

The report, read by Mincho Yonchev, first secretary of the Khaskovo Oblast BCP Committee, set the tone for a meaningful and constructive discussion in the spirit of self-criticism and dissatisfaction with present achievements. The debate clearly showed the responsibilities of the party organizations for the further implementation of the decisions adopted by the 13th BCP Congress, as well as the main trends in the work of the communists following the 1987 July and November plenums of the BCP Central Committee. These trends can be described in a more specific manner, as follows: the establishment of highly efficient economy, the further confirmation of the party's leading role in socioeconomic life, and the development of a new individual endowed with greater social and political initiative.

Comrade Pencho Kubadinski delivered a speech in which he dwelled on the necessity of more extensively consolidating self-management. He also dealt with the role of municipalities in this process, as well as with the importance of the personal example of communists in the restructuring process. Numerous specific tasks were pointed out in connection with the accelerated socioeconomic development of Khaskovo Oblast, and above all, with the construction of intensive agriculture.

At its first plenum the Khaskovo BCP Oblast Committee elected Mincho Yovchev first secretary and Yordan Kostadinov, Kolyo Raynov, and Radi Semov as secretaries. Dimitur Tashkov was elected chairman of the Oblast Control-Auditing Commission. The conference elected delegates to the BCP National Conference.

Krc Replaced by Urban as Czech Deputy Premier

LD211213 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1130 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] A meeting today of the Presidium of the Czech National Council in Prague, held under the chairmanship of Comrade Josef Kempny, discussed a change in the office of a member of the Government of the Czech Socialist Republic. It accepted the resignation of Zdenek Krc, deputy prime minister of the Czech Government and chairman of the Czech Planning Commission, and thanked him for his work. Czech Prime Minister Ladislav Adamec afterward submitted a proposal for the appointment of a new member of the Czech Government as it had been discussed in political bodies and approved by the National Front Central Committee Presidium of the Czech Socialist Republic.

Czech National Council Presidium appointed Bohumil Urban as first deputy prime minister of the Czech Government and as chairman of the Czech Planning Commission.

Additional Changes Reported

LD221612 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1130 GMT 22 Dec 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Czech National Council discussed some cadre issues at its meeting in Prague today. It released Deputy Vasil Mohorita from the post of member of the Czech National Council Presidium at his own request. It elected Deputy Zdenek Krc as a new deputy chairman, he also became chairman of the Mandate and Immunity Committee of the Czech National Council. The Council released Milan Vondruska from this post. [passage omitted]

Further Reportage on CPCZ CC Session

Text of Colotka Address

AU220841 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 19 Dec 87 p 5

["From the Discussion at the Seventh CPCZ Central Committee Session—Comrade Peter Colotka, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium Member and Premier of the Slovak SR"—address delivered during the afternoon session on 17 December]

[Text] The most important task that is currently facing all our party and society is to ensure the goals of the Eighth 5-Year Plan. It is with this awareness that we have approached the ensurance of tasks in Slovakia, both in the past and at present; the utilization of extensive resources in Slovakia has taken us somewhat longer, making the transition to intensive economic development even more urgent than elsewhere in our state.

The results achieved during the first 2 years of the 5-Year Plan show that we have already taken the first important steps on the road toward intensive development, although the rate of our progress does not yet correspond to that set by the congress resolutions. After 1986, we increased the creation of national income in Slovakia by 4.4 percent, which is 0.1 percent more than planned. But this year the increase will amount to approximately 3.4 percent (i.e. about 1 percent less than planned), despite the overfulfillment of the planned volume of industrial and building production and the overall creation of the social product. That is why we in the government of the Slovak SR are striving to intensify efforts to cut down material costs (particularly via progressive structural changes, accelerated scientific-technical progress, and a general improvement of all qualitative aspects of the reproduction process). We do have problems, and are sure to have problems also in the future; but we want to cope with them, and do not intend to abandon the goals of the 5-year plan. The work of the government of the Slovak SR was, and will be, focused particularly on those sectors and branches where—by overcoming current problems and shortcomings—we can effectively contribute toward enhancing the dynamics, intensification, and equilibrium of our entire Czechoslovak economy. In the lumber and cellulose-paper industries we are concentrating on achieving as soon as possible the effects at which we were aiming by extensively investing in the necessary capital construction. It is true that these branches can now satisfy our domestic needs better than previously, and that exports here have increased almost 80 percent since 1980 and today amount to Kcs 3 billion annually. However, we are not satisfied with the current situation, because we still have considerable reserves regarding making the most of our raw timber. That is why we are insisting on the consistent, complete realization of the adopted consolidation programs. At the same time we are taking measures to overcome certain weaknesses, such as the expansion of lumberyards in Ruzomberok and the serious impact emissions from this enterprise have on housing settlements and on the valuable natural environment of this vast area. Moreover, the need to resolve these issues is pointed out by numerous recent complaints by the citizens in Ruzomberok and the surrounding areas.

We want to energetically overcome the problems (caused by certain deviations from the Eighth 5-Year Plan) in deliveries for our domestic and foreign trade and in the course of capital construction.

Within the framework of working out the Ninth 5-Year Plan and the long-term forecast, we are preparing a program for gradually modernizing and reorganizing the individual branches of our light, food, and chemical industries, in which we want to increase the production of low-volume chemicals. In this context, in the near future we will have to cope particularly with the production of higher-generation synthetic fibres as the prerequisite for raising the quality of textile and clothing products and improving sales on the domestic and foreign markets. For the same reason we will have to quickly resolve the concept of ensuring rayon fibres,

since the facilities for producing these fibres have become practically obsolete and their operation is adversely affecting the ecology of Bratislava, which is critical as it is.

In the interests of a balanced development, we in the government of the Slovak SR will continue our efforts to increase self-sufficiency and thrift in the production of basic foodstuffs. Here we can follow up the positive results achieved in the production of cereals, oleaginous plants, meat, and milk. We will step up our demands on agricultural enterprises and the research and breeding facilities (so as to finally achieve a radical turn in the production of potatoes and sugar beet) and continue to improve the supplies of fruit and vegetables for the population. Comparisons with the rest of the world show that we progress far more rapidly in making the most of raw agricultural materials by processing them into good-quality food products. These demands determine the direction of further reorganization and modernization of the food industry; the government of the Slovak SR and its commissions for supplies to the population are adopting measures to overcome the shortcomings on our domestic market, where we now have obvious problems not only with durable consumer goods or fashionable and luxury products, but also with run-of-the-mill, standard kinds of textiles and footwear. We also have shortcomings regarding regular supplies of certain good-quality foodstuffs. We will demand from our production and trade spheres that they show far more business enterprise and make better market analyses, so that they can use the resources that are at their disposal only for products that are really in demand. In order to make our domestic market more balanced, we will have to increase deliveries of such products as color television sets, refrigerators, freezers, furniture that is in demand, VCRs, passenger cars, construction materials, small mechanical appliances, and so forth. The Ministries of Power and of General Engineering will have to approach their development tasks in the awareness of all this; these tasks include, for instance, VCR production in the AVEX enterprise in Bratislava (for which we have freed production and operational facilities and are also solving the housing problem) and the program for producing rotary compressors in the CALEX enterprise in Zlate Moravce. These ministerial branches must also think about improving the situation regarding supplies of spare parts and components, which the people are rightly criticizing as intolerable.

We fully identify ourselves with the critical appraisal of the situation in capital construction. The shortcomings noted in the Presidium report are also evident in Slovakia.

We are also dissatisfied with the way task fulfillment is developing in comprehensive housing construction. Both the national committees and the design and construction organizations have been incapable of solving the technical problems connected with individual areas and facilities because of the rather scattered housing construction (which is also due to the socially necessary protection of the land fund). This has led to an accumulation of construction projects in the last years of the 5-year plan, which in turn led to problems in ensuring the necessary building facilities and subdeliveries, particularly from the producers of pipes, fixtures, elevators, steel products, and so forth.

We must also consider justified all criticism of the quality and architectural solutions of housing construction. This is the reason we adopted—also for the period of the Eighth 5-Year Plan—measures to improve the quality of construction elements, tighten adherence to technological discipline, check more efficiently the materials from suppliers outside the construction sector, and achieve better architectural solutions, more colorful facades, and so forth.

However, the desired results have not yet become apparent in practice. We will therefore have to revert to the measures adopted, check on their fulfillment, and insist on the necessary changes in this sphere.

In recent years serious problems arose regarding supplies of drinking water, particularly in eastern Slovakia, but also in the Zilina, Cadca, Ziar nad Hronom, Lucenec and other districts in Slovakia. This is not only the result of increasing urbanization and unusually low precipitation conditions, but also of our reacting far too late in the state plan to problems of preparing and building new water resources. In order to improve this situation, we are striving to speed up the construction of water reservoirs in Starina and Nova Bystrica and preparing to redesign the Domasa reservoir for water economy purposes. In this context appreciation must be expressed for the activities of the East Slovak party and state agencies and units of Civil Defense and iron workers. By joining forces, they built an approximately 50-km aquaduct to Kosice in record time, thus significantly contributing toward alleviating the severe shortage of drinking water in that area.

The preparation and realization of water reservoir projects in Turcek and Malinec, as well as the more intensive use of underground water in the Zitny Ostrov area, seem to be particularly urgent in our effort to further resolve this problem.

We will devote special care to ensuring that the appropriate agencies and organizations solve their construction tasks in Bratislava with full responsibility. In building the industrial base from the viewpoint of the interests of the city and of our entire economy, it is necessary to consistently and speedily realize the program approved by the Federal Government for the construction of the Bratislava Automobile Works, and not to permit these plans to be placed in doubt, since this would lead to the insufficient utilization of the means already invested and also to other consequences. I think that we should not

mark time regarding the construction of the electric engineering facility in the Petrzalka sector of the city, to prevent it from being merely a dormitory community for the citizens of Bratislava.

The tasks connected with improving the public facilities, particularly in medical care, with solving transport problems and protecting the city's environments, are just as important.

It must be said openly that in certain sectors of Bratislava the solutions are delayed, for objective or subjective reasons. This applies to the reduction of emissions from industrial enterprises and to the concept of mass city transport. In the intention of the resolution adopted by the Federal Government, it is essential to fully resolve the problems connected with realizing the concept of a speedway [rychlodraha] as soon as possible; in doing so we will apply the knowledge acquired in constructing the Prague metro, and the experience of Soviet experts. We must continue to improve the current material-technical base of our mass city transport, where we have enduring problems with deliveries of transport vehicles and spare parts, and with the bulk of the facilities for equipping wagon sheds and workshops, problems which mean that we do not yet have a full guarantee that the problems and shortcomings revealed by the disasters last winter will not be repeated once again under similar weather conditions.

We realize our high political responsibility for ensuring the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan—a period when prerequisites are created for the functioning of the new economic mechanism. At the same time it is most important to fulfill the tasks in all spheres, because a failure to fulfill them in one sector is passed on, as a chain-reaction, to other enterprises and branches.

Regardless of how the organizational structure of the production-technical, scientific-research, and sector base and other issues is solved, all our enterprises, above all those involved in the [economic] experiment, but also others, can work out the systems of intra-enterprise economy and management and of material incentives both for collectives and individuals already today; they can prepare modernization projects in cooperation with the research and development base both at home and abroad, particularly with partners in the socialist countries, and above all the Soviet Union.

Everybody will have to face the solution of these problems; nobody can avoid it. And it is more likely than ever that he who starts on them earlier, will be able to cope with them sooner. This is the approach which the party has in mind in stressing that it is essential to make use of the process of restructuring the economic mechanism for accomplishing the qualitatively more demanding tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan.

More on Restructuring Resolution

LD212017 Prague CTK in English
1851 GMT 21 Dec 87

["Main Points from Communist Party Document"—CTK headline]

[Text] Prague Dec 21 (CTK)—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia adopted at its 7th session last week a resolution on a comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism in Czechoslovakia and ways to ensure it.

The document outlines the basic system of operation of the Czechoslovak economy and a time-table according to which the new economic mechanism will be put into life step by step.

The first part defines the starting points, emphasizing that "without improving the quality of production relations by a deep and all-round restructuring of the economic mechanism the scope cannot be opened for necessary qualitative changes in the development of production forces, in correspondence with the world development".

The opening part stresses that resolute steps are necessary in all spheres of the economy to assert the new mechanism. At the same time balance must be strengthened in the economy. In external relations, restructuring will be aimed in the first stage primarily at a distinct increase in the effectiveness of exchanges and consequent overcoming of the disproportion between the demand for foreign currency and the possibility of meeting it.

The restructuring of the economic mechanism should be regarded as a process "of a rather long-term character, and open in many respects". It consistently preserves and makes use of the advantages of socialist production relations.

"Basic approaches to the development of the economic mechanism identical with the Soviet Union are applied in the restructuring of the economic mechanism in Czechoslovakia. This creates preconditions for still more consistent assertion of Czechoslovakia's active role and initiative in the process of restructuring the international integration mechanism of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) which has been started, as well as for promoting step by step higher forms of cooperation between Czechoslovak organizations and organizations in the Soviet Union and other CMEA states", the document says in the initial part.

The second part defines relations between state bodies and economic organizations. It says that the role of the centre in directing basic strategic programs and ensuring balanced and proportionate socio-economic development must be not only preserved but, on the contrary,

strengthened. At the same time it is necessary "to fully respect the competences of economic organizations in matters entrusted to them by laws".

This makes it imperative to rationally readjust central bodies, abolish superfluous intermediate structures which have become a source of excessive red tape and overgrown bureaucracy, distinctly cut the number of regulations and reduce some bodies of state administration. The role of the centre will shift primarily to the sphere of the creation of long-term strategy. This does not mean that it will cease to play a part in operative management but its extent and character must be above all distinctly reduced. At the same time it is necessary to rationalize management structures also in the enterprise sphere.

A number of changes in the status of economic organizations will result from these principles. They will independently draft their economic plans as the basic tools of their enterprise activities and these plans will have to respect the binding indicators, tasks and limits of the state plan and the concluded economic contracts. However, enterprises will also be entitled to independently decide on the structure of their production within the subject of economic activity defined by their statutes", [quote marks as received] decide on the purchase of products and the ways of marketing their goods and also to control their personnel development including the fixing of the overall number of employees.

If the respective economic organization fulfils its duties resulting from the state plan, it can develop other production programs, with a view to the desirable diversification of production. It is also entitled to group with other economic organizations but "economic organizations must not seek by grouping a monopoly in the given sphere of enterprise", the resolution said.

The third part of the resolution is devoted to major changes in the system of the management of the Czechoslovak economy. It states that in contrast to the past, when several plans existed at the top level, the state plan will now be drafted comprehensively, i.e. it will integrate the decisive parametres of the former plans. The directive functions of the plan will be realized above all by economic methods, chiefly through payments and other instruments of financial, price, monetary, credit and wage policies. The precisely specified tasks of the state plan will be gradually limited.

A much greater stress than before will be laid on the long-term aspects of planning. The creation of plans will be based on a comprehensive prognosis of scientific-technological and social development for the period of 20 years worked out by the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The initial planning document will be a long-term outlook for the period of ten years (15 years in selected spheres) which will be periodically specified in more detail. The priority role in management will be given to the five-year plan which will weaken spasmodic features in the planning process.

The decisive prerequisite of rational behaviour and initiative of plants, work teams and individuals will be activation and a more objective character of the instruments of value. It is necessary to increase their role in the creation of plans and rid them of former deformations. An important contribution to this will be the restructuring of wholesale and purchasing prices to come into effect on January 1, 1989. Their existing level as a whole should not be significantly changed and also retail prices are not to change. The restructuring of prices should bring about their closer link to prices on international markets.

"Substantially increased will be the role of currency policy with the aim to ensure a unified, flexible and real exchange rate of the Czechoslovak crown," the document says. The set measures should create conditions for gradual transition to convertibility of the Czechoslovak currency. The first step will be introduction of one-tier rates vis-a-vis currencies of non-socialist states, the transferable rouble and the currencies of socialist countries, separately for commerical and non-commercial payments. These rates will be flexibly adjusted according to the development of relations of foreign and home price levels, the document says.

Dealing with the future fixing of wages, the resolution says that tendencies to equalize remuneration would be overcome. Decisive will be the development of the stimulating parts of remuneration which should be finally linked to available profit.

The fourth part of the document sets the time-table for the application of the individual elements of the restructuring of the economic mechanism in Czechoslovakia. It notes that the restructuring will be complicated by the serious difficulties in the implementation of the current five-year plan. The conception and contents of the next five-year plan must already be in full harmony with the new economic mechanism.

The restructuring of the economic mechanism, which as a whole will be in effect at the beginning of the 1991-1995 plan period, will be implemented in the following most important stages: It will be introduced from 1988 in catering for the public, services, locally-run business and cooperatives and from 1989 in agriculture and the food indsutry. A number of new elements of the economic mechanism will be applied by 1989. These include, for instance, the system of influencing wages, financial-economic instruments in foreign trade, one-tier exchange rates and the like. Restructured wholesale and purchasing prices will come into effect on January 1, 1989. The organization of enterprises will be restructured in the 1988-1989 period. The economic experiment will be gradually expanded to further enterprises until 1990. Newly defined from 1988 will be the function

and competence of state administration bodies. The number of their employees will be reduced and those redundant will be given other jobs under a program which provides also for the solution of consequent social questions.

"The restructuring of the economic mechanism was started at the initiative of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, which as the leading force of society must head the process of its implementation...", the resolution concluded.

Restructuring, Economic Measures Discussed

LD211725 Prague CTK in English
1554 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 21 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Government discussed directives to ensure comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism at its session today.

The directives set forth the tasks for central bodies and economic organizations and form the basis for legislative amendments.

The government also debated a program of steps to create necessary conditions to ensure the conclusions of the 17th Czechoslovak Communist Party Congress in the economic sphere. It stressed the importance of consistent implementation of tasks of the 1986-1990 plan for launching and purposefully carrying out the restructuring of the economic mechanism which is aimed at intensification of the national economy, faster growth of the national income and all-round development of society.

The government dealt with the quality of Czechoslovak products and noted that despite adopted measures the situation in the supply of good quality products for exports and the home market is unsatisfactory. It passed a decree providing, in addition to earlier measures, for payments by state economic organizations to the state budget equivalent to real losses caused by production of poor quality, minus internal losses from shoddy production, as from January 1, 1988.

Zdenek Mlynar Cited on Husak 'Ouster'

PM221212 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian
19 Dec 87 p 11

[Telephone interview with former CPCZ Presidium member Zdenek Mlynar in Vienna by Andrea Tarquini in Rome; date not given]

[Excerpts] Rome—Jakes is not, and will never be, Prague's Gorbachev, but at least our Brezhnev has gone at last. The new CPCZ leader's election certainly did not happen against the Kremlin's wishes but the start of a Czechoslovak restructuring is still a long way off. Shall we assess the change at the top of the CPCZ using the yardstick of Soviet developments? By all means, but if so, we would say right away that the differences are enormous. Mikhail Sergeyevich has been conducting a renewal process, albeit amid uncertainties and obstacles, for the past 2 years now. In Prague the damage done by 20 years of repression and stagnation is such that the conditions for a new course have not yet even begun to take shape. [passage omitted]

[Tarquini] Jakes is not the Czechoslovak Gorbachev. Has nothing changed?

[Mlynar] No, I did not mean that. It opens up a process that could result in major positive developments but for the present it constitutes only a beginning or a prelude. Reforms have been decided on only in the economic field to counter the decline. The nature and limits of reform in the political field will be the subject of much more discussion than in the USSR, however. Only the future will tell whether a comprehensive reform of socialism will become possible again in Czechoslovakia.

[Tarquini] Is a transitional period beginning? How long will it last?

[Mlynar] I am no prophet, nor do I want to be one. I can only say that everything in my country is more difficult than in the other socialist countries because hitherto the government has rejected any critical revision of the verdict on the attempted reforms of 1968. On the one hand the leaders try to defend the repression that crushed the "new course" while on the other they now want to implement some of the reforms that we planned for the country at that time. It is an insoluble inconsistency. Mistrust reigns both within society and within the apparatus, and this is no surprise: The same people who imposed a counter-reform on the country for 20 years now suddenly appear to have been converted to a reformist policy. It will take time before there accedes to power in Prague a generation that no longer has to deal with the traumas of 1968—the traumas that burden the generation to which Dubcek, I, and Jakes himself belong. In this sense Jakes' choice as Husak's successor is the inevitable result of the situation created since the invasion and of a compromise among several groups within the leadership.

[Tarquini] Dubcek was unknown before and during the 1968 plenum that marked his victory. Nobody could have identified him as the hero of the "Spring." Now there is Jakes, another unknown. Is there not an analogy here between 1968 and the present situation?

[Mlynar] No, because Dubcek managed to become the key figure at a time when the current for reform was very strong within the party: The conditions for economic, political, and cultural reform had taken shape and become rooted over a number of years. That was when Dubcek emerged, and he built his role partly on the basis of that situation. Now the situation is totally different and at 65 Jakes is much older than Dubcek, the winner at

the January 1968 plenum, was then. He may indeed have much more experience than Dubcek did but he definitely cannot earn any prestige or charisma.

[Tarquini] Is there no longer a current for reform?

[Mlynar] Well, it is very difficult to say who the reformists are. The majority of party members joined only after 1970, under the vigilant eye of those who had just conducted the great purge. This massive membership itself represents a different generation from us, the 1968 generation, now in our sixties, but the situation created by the habit of repression is such that no party member wants to risk supporting trends for reform. Thus the 1968 trauma and its repercussions still influence people in their forties.

[Tarquini] Gerasimov said yesterday that the Soviet leaders "know a great deal about what is happening in Prague" and that "they discussed it at length with the Czechoslovak Comrades. [no closing quote marks, as published] What does that mean?

[Mlynar] It means what Gerasimov says, no more, no less. There were consultations and Moscow kept in touch with the Czechoslovak leaders before the plenum. Husak's ouster certainly did not happen against the Soviet leadership's will.

[Tarquini] Let us talk about Jakes. In your memoirs you described him, partly on the basis of Dubcek's testimony, as a KGB spy, as the "Soviet connection" within the Czechoslovak party. Is he still that, and what does it mean to be the Soviets' man in Prague now that Gorbachev, not Brezhnev, reigns in the Kremlin?

[Mlynar] My description in my memoirs is based on recollections from 20 years ago. That was my opinion concerning that period and it is a mistake to seek in it a key for interpreting subsequent political developments and individual careers. I am unwilling to voice an opinion on what Jakes the bureaucrat or Jakes the man may have become or remained. All I can say about him is that he is a pragmatist capable of adapting to various situations and alignments.

[Tarquini] Do you believe that Jakes will engage in a dialogue with Charter 77 and other dissident groups or at least with the reformists expelled from the party following the invasion?

[Mlynar] I believe the issue of relations between opposition and government is now different from in the recent past throughout the Soviet Bloc. This is mainly due to the example set by Mikhail Sergeyevich—Sakharov's release, the emergence of independent groups, the dialogue with hitherto ostracized economists and intellectuals... Nevertheless I cannot tell you whether we will see an era of tolerance and dialogue between government and opposition in the immediate future in Prague too. Unfortunately I believe spectacular changes are unlikely.

[Tarquini] Do you believe Dubcek's return to politics is a possibility?

[Mlynar] No, I definitely do not believe in it. It seems to me an unrealistic idea.

Jiri Pelikan Comments

PM221102 Rome AVANTI! in Italian 18 Dec 87 pp 1, 8

[Interview with former Czechoslovak television chief Jiri Pelikan: "Brezhnev's Man, Husak, Ousted: His Successor not Another Dubcek"]

[Text] After almost 20 years of rigid stagnation, things are beginning to stir in Prague too. On 4 January 1968 the CPCZ Central Committee decided to separate the roles of president of the republic and party general secretary, thus bringing to an end the power monopoly held by Antonin Novotny, who retained only his post as president. Alexander Dubcek was elected general secretary. This marked the start of the Prague Spring, which was supposed to give the Czechoslovak people the socialism with a human face supported by the large majority of the population but which was halted by Brezhnev's tanks in August 1968.

These 20 years of normalization have brought Czechoslovakia another power monopoly—that of Gustav Husak, who became both president and general secretary with the aim of erasing people's memories of those 8 months of freedom. However, even though he maintained order in Czechoslovakia, Husak never enjoyed the people's support that Kadar did in Hungary.

The difficult times for Husak started with Mikhail Gorbachev's advent to power in the Soviet Union. Husak, Bilak, and other leaders hoped at first that Gorbachev would not survive the resistance from the bureaucrats and conservatives. However, when they saw that Gorbachev's reforms were making headway they could only side with restructuring, at least verbally, albeit somewhat unwillingly.

Meanwhile pressure was felt from the public and also from the younger party officials, who urged an adaptation to the trend in the Soviet Union. Husak, now 75 and ailing, resisted for a long time. However, this is not all. The Czech people became increasingly intolerant of the fact that all the key posts—those of president, general secretary, and second-in-command, this last held by Bilak—were occupied by Slovaks.

The public and the Soviet leaders too would have preferred to see the post of general secretary filled by Prime Minister Strougal, who is more open to reforms. The party apparatus opposed this choice, however. Thus a temporary compromise has been established with the aim of maintaining the status quo while at the same time

granting the CPCZ the new impetus and initiative for the economic reforms needed to prevent Czechoslovakia from sinking to the level of the underdeveloped countries.

This is not another Prague Spring, however. Milos Jakes is not another Dubcek, nor is he a Czechoslovak Gorbachev. He is in fact the representative of the dogmatic cadres within the party apparatus who have been in power for 20 years and who owe their authority to the August 1968 Soviet intervention and to the subsequent normalization.

A real step forward would be constituted by a national reconciliation process as proposed by the civil rights movement, Charter 77: 1) The release of political prisoners; 2) An end to political discrimination, which has hit hundreds of thousands of citizens dismissed from their jobs and excluded from public life; 3) The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia.

The new general secretary is definitely not willing to accept such measures. However, he will be forced to open the doors of the party and the state to the new generations in their forties and fifties, who are pragmatic and therefore more open to the changes coming from Gorbachev's Soviet Union.

There will certainly be further personnel changes within the government and the party.

In 1988 more pressure will be felt from the public, who have roused themselves and are urging not only economic but also political reforms. The end of 20 years of stagnation has begun. Following Hungary and Poland, things are stirring in Czechoslovakia too.

Jakes Receives TU Delegation, Congratulations

LD212325 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ, received in Prague today a delegation of the Central Council of Trade Unions led by Miroslav Zavadil, its chairman, which presented him a letter of congratulation on his election to the post.

In the course of the conversation they stressed the important mission of the trade union organization in the implementation of the present tasks of strategy of acceleration and social restructuring as proceeded from the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Changes in Petty Offenses Law Discussed

WA212000 Prague PRACE in Czech 5 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] Prague—At yesterday's meeting of the Constitutional Law Committee of the Czech National Council, Josef Jung, the CSSR interior minister, acquainted the representatives with the draft law on petty offenses which is currently being prepared. Some of the less serious legal infractions which, until now, have been referred to courts, would be transferred, as of 1 January 1989, to the jurisdiction of the national committees or similar administrative agencies. This pertains mainly to misdemeanors but also to some felonies which represent a lesser danger to the society. Taken into consideration was the fact that publication of the law on misdemeanors, which is to be voided, was the result of an extraordinary socio-political situation caused by a crisis. The development of socialist society as well as the current situation no longer require that such misdeeds be handled by courts. The courts will have more time to make decisions on more serious criminal activities.

Polednik Addresses Czech NC Deputies

LD212316 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] In Prague today, the Club of Communist Deputies of the Czech National Council discussed the problems of young people in light of the conclusions of 17th CPCZ Congress.

Jindrich Polednik, secretary of the party Central Committee, said in his speech that the overwhelming majority of Czechoslovak young people have the right attitudes. They react sensitively to superficiality and formalism, to the difference between words and deeds, between the proclaimed thesis and the reality of the environment in which they live and work.

Jindrich Polednik said that the reinforcement of socialist patriotism of young people and respect for the values created by previous generations remains a permanent task.

Slovak National Council Session 21 Dec

LD212320 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Excerpts] We have already informed you in our news bulletins about the eighth session of the Slovak National Council which was held today. The session was attended by members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium Jozef Lenart, first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, and Peter Colotka, premier of the Slovak SR; as well as by members of the presidium and secretariat of the CPSL Central Committee, and representatives of organizations of the National Front. Ladislav Mikus, our commentaror, will now report in detail on the deliberations:

[Mikus] The Slovak National Council at its session today discussed and approved two government draft bills and a report of the government on the fulfillment of tasks of the scientific-technical development of the Slovak SR.

The draft bill of the Slovak National Council on the activity of organs of veterinary care in Slovakia was explained by Julius Varga, minister of agriculture and

food. This bill is a sequel to the bill adopted by the Federal Assembly on 10 November of this year and aims to create organizational and legal prerequisites for a more effective protection of animals, to safeguard hygenic purity and biological value of foodstuffs and raw materials of animal origin.

The government bill on state budget for the Slovak SR for next year was explained first of all by Frantisek Miseje, minister of finance. In his exposition he said that the budget in receipts and expeditures is balanced and represents the amount of almost kcs 92.5 billion and the national committee's budget amounts to kcs 42.5 billion. Then he went on to say:

[Begin Miseje recording] From the point of view of aims which the draft state budget for the Slovak SR expresses, we are not satisfied with the creation of financial and budget sources in our economy. The results achieved last year—but above all this year—in the increase of efficiency and profitability, which are the decisive criteria of intensive method of management, are worse than the original plans. In this period the situation is even more serious because we are facing the task to overcome in next year's shortcomings from unfufilled tasks in the first two years of the 5-year plan. In our economy this means, for example, to make good a deficit in profits totaling about kcs 1 billion. Despite the fact that we today are striving for efficiency of work at every section of social activity, efficient development in the economy is of a priority importance—in it material and financial sources for the further development and for the fulfillment of tasks in the entire social sphere are being created. The volume of the profit in the centrally controlled economy of the republic is planned to increase by 14.5 percent while the productivity by 1.9 percent and from this follows that 87 percent of the growth has to be ensured by making production more economical which means reduction of the total cost by 1.1 percent—including a 1.6 percent reduction of material intensity. We consider this task a realistic, possible to fulfill, if we take into account reserves which our economy has in the consumption of materials, fuels and energy. [end recording]

[Mikus] Frantisek Miseje, minister of finance, then spoke about individual tasks of branches of the economy and about the basic aims of the policy of the party and the state which are: Broader and better quality satisfaction of needs of the population. He said that the budget ensures a further development of living standards and social guarantees for the population. [passage omitted]

[Mikus] After the debate, deputies of the Slovak National Committee approved unanimously the state bill on state budget of the Slovak SR for next year.

At the afternoon session, a report of the government on the fulfillment of tasks of the scientific-technical development in the Slovak SR and tasks for the government proceeding from the comprehensive program of scientific-technical progress of CEMA member countries up to the year 2000 were on the agenda. The report was presented by Milan Rusnak, deputy premier and chairman of the Slovak Commission for scientific-technical and investment development. He said among other things:

[Begin Rusnak recording] We can sum up the progressive character of the Eighth 5-Year Plan for science and technology by the growth of new production which is to reach, if compared with the last 5-year plan, in Slovakia the amount kcs 61 billion—this is 2.8 times more than in the Seventh 5-Year Plan. The economic effectiveness of tasks is to reach more than kcs 10 per kcs 1 of means spent, which is 1.5 times more than in the past 5-year plan. Indices of profit, savings of expenditure and labor force and other indices are more progressive. The effect of our effort in the scientific-technical development has to inevitably reflect in the quality of products and their utilization properties. Despite the fact that we can see certain improvement, we are not satisfied with the dynamics of this upward trend. We are mostly concerned about the increase of the volume of products classified by state control bodies as products of third class quality. In 1986, this increase was, if compared with 1985, more than double. In 1986 in Slovakia about 11,000 types of products were innovated which is by almost one third more than in the first year of the Seventh 5-Year Plan. It still remains an unfavorable fact that the annual—about a 6-percent—share of innovated production creates prerequesites for its renovation in 14 to 15 years approximately, while in industrially advanced countries this renovation takes place in approximately 6 years, in the case of consumer goods in 3 to 4 years and in electronics this time is considerably shorter. [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Mikus] After the winding up speech of deputy premier Milan Rusnak, deputies approved the report of the government on the fulfillment of tasks of scientific-technical development of the Slovak SR. After the session, the Slovak National Council presidium promulgated the approved bills and the fall session of the Slovak National Council was declared closed.

Slovak Jewry Protests Dachau Manifesto

AU220859 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 18 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report: "In the Name of the Jewish Religious Communities of the Slovak SR: We Reject Incendiary Statements"]

[Excerpts] Bratislava (CTK)—An electoral meeting of the Central Council of the Jewish Religious Communities in Slovakia was held in Bratislava yesterday. It confirmed Bedrich Gruenwald in the post of president for another election period. The participants reviewed activities over the past year, with special attention being paid to the solution of the problem of care for Jewish synagogues and cemeteries.

At the close of the meeting they unanimously adopted the following statement of the Central Council of the Jewish Religious Communities in Slovakia:

"The Presidium of the Central Council of the Jewish Religious Communities in Bratislava voices its full agreement with the contents of the article 'Late Repentance and What Is Behind It,' published by the daily PRAVDA on 24 November 1987. For the sake of truth it deems it necessary to provide some additional information with regard to the document of a negligible group of Slovak signatories that was issued on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the deportation of Jews from the territory of Slovakia, because it directly concerns citizens of the Jewish religion in Slovakia.

"The statement is imbued with half-truths that give it the semblance of respectability and thereby distort the actions of the clericalist-fascist regime, whose aim was the complete annihilation of Jews living in Slovakia in the years 1939-45. However, this only had the support of the regime and its helpers, because the overwhelming majority of the population disagreed with the fascist regime and its inhuman goals and deeds. [passage omitted]

"We therefore reject the pseudopathetic [pseudopatetické] and incendiary statement by this small group of citizens whose aim is to upset peace and the harmonious cohabitation of citizens of Jewish religion with other citizens in our state."

[Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 18 September on page 5, in the "Response to Articles in RP" column, carries a 500-word letter from Vaclav Novak, director of the Terezin Memorial, which responds to the same article as the above statement. Novak denies the claim of "Slovak emigres who gathered in Dachau recently" that Jewish memorials in Czechoslovakia are neglected and views the Terezin Memorial and the nearby Jewish cemetery, which has been "restored at great cost," as a proof of the great attention being paid to the places of the Jewish people's suffering in Czechoslovakia. He also notes that an "expensive restoration of the former ghetto columbarium" is being prepared at present, which will be turned into a museum]

Socialist Party Head Congratulates Jakes

AU220916 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 18 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report: "Congratulations From the Czechoslovak Socialist Party"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—On Thursday [17 December] Bohuslav Kucera, chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party (CSS), and Jan Skoda, the party's central secretary, sent the following congratulatory letter on behalf of the party's Central Committee Presidium to Milos Jakes, newly elected CPCZ Central Committee general secretary:

Esteemed Comrade General Secretary, accept sincere and cordial congratulations from the CSS Central Committee Presidium on your election to the post of CPCZ Central Committee general secretary. This election ensued from the many years of your meritorious work in the CPCZ leadership for the benefit of our country's socialist development. We wish you good health and many successes in this demanding and significant function. At the same time we want to assure you that the CSS members are prepared to fully support the efforts made by the CPCZ, this leading force in our National Front, which aims to comprehensively develop our socialist fatherland, carry out the restructuring of our national economy, and further develop socialist democracy. We want to continue energetically contributing to our country's share in consolidating peace in the spirit of the Soviet Union's untiring effort, directed toward disarmament and the establishment of security and cooperation among the peoples.

Husak, Strougal Condolences on Artist's Death

LD211418 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Comrade Gustav Husak has sent a letter of condolences to the Czech Ministry of Culture and the Union of Czech Writers on the death of National Artist Bohumil Riha. The letter says that his extensive work, dedicated to the cause of progress and permeated with love toward the people and the homeland, permanently enriched our socialist culture. The name of Bohumil Riha will remain indelibly imprinted in the memory of our peoples.

Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal also sent a letter of condolences to the two institutions on the death of National Artist Bohumil Riha.

Trade Official Speaks at EEC-CEMA Symposium

LD172225 Prague CTK in English 1238 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Brussels Dec 17 (CTK correspondent)—Trade between the European Economic Community and Czechoslovakia accounts for more than 60 percent of Czechoslovak trade with non-socialist countries, Milan Cernohuby of the Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Ministry said in the Belgian town of Ghent today.

Speaking at a symposium on relations between the European Economic Community and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, the director of a Foreign Ministry department said that Czechoslovak-EEC agreements have so far applied only to several metallurgical, textile and agricultural products, but progress in this trade is expected from a forthcoming agreement on exchange of industrial goods, as it will make it possible to expand the mutually advantageous trade between the two sides. The second round of talks on the document ended this week and talks on its technical aspects are due to start in the nearest future.

Milan Cernohuby also spoke about Czechoslovak legislation making it possible to set up mixed companies with foreign firms.

Progress at Talks Reported

AU220932 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 17 Dec 87 p 7

[CTK correspondent's report: "CSSR-EEC Talks"]

[Text] Brussels (CTK correspondent)—The second round of 2-day official talks on an agreement on trade in industrial products between Czechoslovakia and the EEC ended in Brussels on Wednesday [16 December]. The talks yielded further progress in preparing a document that will provide both sides with broader scope and prerequisites for a mutually advantageous exchange of industrial products.

The Czechoslovak delegation to the talks was led by Miroslav Okrouhly, director of a Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade department, and the EEC delegation by Pablo Benavides, director of an EEC Commission department. The talks were held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere and both sides agreed that they will soon be followed up by technical negotiations on an agreement on trade in industrial products.

Visiting Israeli TU Delegation Holds Talks

AU161538 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 15 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report in the "International Relations" column; Talks With Israeli Delegation.]

[Text] Viliam Kozik, secretary of the Central Trade Union Council [URO], yesterday [14 December] held talks with a delegation of the Israeli Democratic Front for Peace and Equality headed by Moshe Ziser, member of the Executive Committee of the General Federation of Labor of Israel, which is currently paying a visit to the CSSR at URO's invitation. The two representatives briefed each another on the most topical tasks of their organizations and assessed some aspect of the current situation in the world and in the international trade union movement.

Further Report

AU171837 Prague PRACE in Czech 15 Dec 87 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Representative of Israeli Labor Federation in Prague; Coordinated Action Necessary"]

[Text] Prague—Viliam Kozik, secretary of the Central Trade Union Council [URO], yesterday [14 December] held talks with a delegation of the Israeli Democratic Front for Peace and Equality headed by Moshe Ziser, member of the Executive Committee of the General Federation of Labor of Israel, which is currently paying a visit to the CSSR at URO's invitation.

The two representatives briefed one another on the most topical tasks of their organizations and assessed some aspects of the current situation in the world and in the international trade union movement. In this connection they endorsed the consistent peace program and the important initiatives which are being submitted by the USSR and the other socialist countries in this respect. They welcomed the conclusions of the December talks between the USSR and the United States on the highest level and underscored, in particular, the historic importance of the treaty signed on the elimination of medium-range and shorter-range missiles, and the planned treaty on the reduction of offensive strategic weapons. They stressed the need for coordinated action by trade unions with various orientations in the struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress, and described the reception of the representatives of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as an important event for the international trade union movement. They protested against the oppression and bloodshed in the occupied Arab territories. They favored the speediest possible convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East, attended by all interested parties, including the PLO, and stressed their support for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their own state, under the leadership of the PLO.

At the end of their talks, they expressed their solidarity with the struggle of all progressive democratic forces in Asia, Africa, and Latin America against the exploitive policy of world imperialism, for full political, national, and economic independence, and for the right of all nations to the free choice of their further development.

Press Conference Held on W. Bank, Gaza Riots

LD211652 Prague CTK in English 1601 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 21 (CTK)—"Not even 20 years of Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been long enough to suppress the desire of the Arab people of Palestine for recognition of their legitimate rights," PLO representative in Czechoslovakia Samih 'Abd al-Fattah [name as received] said today.

Speaking at a press conference, he said that the present uprising refuted Israeli assertions that members of the Palestinian resistance movement enter territories occupied by Israel from outside, and showed that inhabitants of the occupied lands resist the occupation by all means they have at their disposal. The uprising confirmed the failure of all Israeli and U.S. plans to form a supplementary Palestinian leadership on these territories with the aim to conduct separate talks to the detriment of the Palestinian people's cause.

Samih 'Abd al-Fattah said that "the U.S. Administration, which usually speaks much about human rights violations, remains blind and deaf to the unprecedented

violation of the Palestinian rights. The firm connection between the bloody practices of the Israeli rulers and U.S. responsibility for these practices was clearly apparent also from the closure of the PLO mission in New York."

Another speaker at the press conference, secretary of the Czechoslovak Committee for Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America Alexandr Lesenko said that many meetings of solidarity with the struggle of Palestinian people in occupied lands are taking place in Czechoslovakia. Resolutions of these meetings denounce the terror of Israeli authorities against Palestinians and demand the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Spokesman Dusan Rovensky read an official statement in support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people in occupied lands.

Head of the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Press Department Ivan Kulhanek pointed to the big extent and intensity of the Palestinian people's actions against the occupation regime which have spread to all occupied territories. These actions have a clearly political character and show unequivocal support for the Palestine Liberation Organization, he added.

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD211654 Prague CTK in English
1550 GMT 21 Dec 87

["Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry's Statement"—CTK headline]

[Text] Prague Dec 21 (CTK)—Czechoslovakia resolutely condemns the brutal actions of the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian population on the occupied territories and calls on the Israeli Government to immediately stop violent actions and accept a just solution of the Palestinian question.

This point was stressed in a statement of the Czechoslovak Federal Ministry on the situation on the Arab territories occupied by Israel.

The bloody events in the Gaza Strip and on the West Bank of the Jordan River show the urgency of immediate just solution to the Palestinian question which is the core of the Middle East crisis.

Any attempts to delay this solution and suppress by force the just struggle of the Palestinian people for their inalienable rights only sharpens the situation in the Middle East, which threatens with a new explosion, and has a negative impact on the development of international relations, the document stressed.

There is a feasible way to solve this dangerous regional conflict—the convening of an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all sides involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and U.N. Security Council permanent members.

The main obstacle to its realization is a negative stand of the Israeli Government which, with its actions on the occupied Arab territories, again showed the real face of its policy in solving the Palestinian question.

The violence and reprisals of the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian population on the occupied territories have been resolutely condemned all over the world, the document pointed out, adding that the international community must exert every effort to convene an international conference on the Middle East, as the recently adopted resolution of the U.N. General Assembly demands.

Leaders Congratulate Jakes on Election

Gorbachev Telegram

AU211643 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
18 Dec 87 p 1

[CTK Moscow dispatch: "Comrade M. Gorbachev's Telegram of Congratulations"]

[Text] Moscow (CTK)—Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev sent Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, a congratulatory telegram, which states:

Dear Comrade Jakes, accept cordial congratulations on your election to the post of CPCZ Central Committee general secretary.

We are convinced that under your leadership the Central Committee will ensure the accomplishment of the vast tasks facing the party—tasks of the further development and consolidation [upevneni] of socialism in Czechoslovakia, the restructuring of the country's economic mechanism, and the democratization of its sociopolitical life—and the implementation of the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress, aimed at accelerating the socioeconomic development of the CSSR.

Our party and our country know you, Comrade Jakes, as a Communist who adheres to principles, who actively promotes close cooperation with the Soviet Union and is a sincere friend of our country. We are sincerely convinced that the fraternal ties between the CPSU and CPCZ will continue to be a reliable guarantee of the unbreakable friendship between our countries and peoples.

I wish you, dear Comrade Jakes, many successes in your new responsible office.

Jakes Thanks Gorbachev

AU211648 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 19 Dec 87 p 1

[CTK report: "Thanks to M. Gorbachev for Congratulations"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—This Friday [18 December] Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, sent Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, a message of thanks for the latter's congratulations on his having been elected head of the CPCZ Central Committee. The telegram stated:

Dear Comrade Gorbachev, I thank you from all my heart for the congratulations on my election to the post of CPCZ Central Committee general secretary.

I am fully aware of the great responsibility entrusted to me by the Central Committee of our party, whose 17th Congress formulated an extensive and demanding program for the further development and consolidation of socialism in our country and for the acceleration of socioeconomic development linked with the restructuring and democratization of the entire life of our society. In many respects, particularly in their very substance, these issues and tasks are concurrent with the issues and tasks currently being tackled, under their own conditions, by all socialist countries, which consider the course taken by the fraternal CPSU a powerful stimulus and a fruitful inspiration. We are now following with ardent sentiments of affection [sympatie] the CPSU's resolute effort, drawing on it for invaluable experience for our own work. We will do everything to further deepen friendship and cooperation between our Communist parties and countries, a friendship and cooperation which have passed the test of many years.

I wish the CPSU Central Committee and you personally, dear Comrade Gorbachev, many successes in implementing the conclusions of the 27th CPSU Congress, in the restructuring and democratization of Soviet society, as well as in your determined peace effort.

Kadar Sends Message

AU221005 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 18 Dec 87 p 7

[CTK report: "Further Congratulatory Telegrams"]

[Excerpts] Prague (CTK)—Comrade Milos Jakes received further telegrams congratulating him on the election to his new function from leading representatives of fraternal parties. [passage omitted]

On the occasion of your election to the office of CPCZ Central Committee General Secretary I send you comradely greetings on behalf of the MSZMP Central Committee and the Hungarian Communists, and on my own behalf.

From all my heart I wish you all the best, and firm health and many successes in your responsible work in the interests of the further development of socialist Czechoslovakia, in the interests of cooperation between our parties and states and of the consolidation of friendship between the people of our two countries. [passage omitted]

Budapest—MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar.

Cuba, DPRK, PLO Send Telegrams

AU221135 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 19 Dec 87 p 7

[CTK "zr"-signed report: "Congratulations for M. Jakes"]

[Excerpts] Prague (CTK,zr)—Telegrams congratulating Comrade Milos Jakes on his election to the office of CPCZ Central Committee general secretary continued arriving on Friday [18 December]. [passage omitted]

Havana—Fidel Castro, top Cuban representative, sent Milos Jakes congratulations on his election to the office of CPCZ Central Committee general secretary on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), the Cuban people, and on his own behalf.

The congratulations stated that the election of M. Jakes expresses the Czechoslovak Communists' confidence in, and recognition of, his devoted work for the development of socialist society in the CSSR and for the cause of socialism and world peace. The message then recalled Milos Jakes' visit to Cuba and his presence at the Third PCC Congress, and appraised his friendly relationship with Cuba.

In his congratulations, Fidel Castro expressed Cuba's firm determination to continue consolidating and developing exemplary relations between the people and communist parties of the two countries and wished M. Jakes, the CPCZ, and the Czechoslovak people further successes in building socialism. [passage omitted]

Pyongyang—Kim Il-song, Central Committee general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK):

In connection with your election to the office of CPCZ Central Committee general secretary I send you ardent congratulations on behalf of the WPK Central Committee and on my own behalf. I am fully convinced that the relations of friendly cooperation between our two parties and countries and between our people are developing well in all spheres, and that they will continue to develop and deepen.

I wish you, from the bottom of my heart, great successes in implementing the conclusions adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress, in the fight waged by your party and people for peace and security in Europe, and in your responsible work. [passage omitted]

Baghdad—Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, expressed in his congratulatory telegram the conviction that Czechoslovakia would continue supporting the Palestinian people's just fight against imperialism and Zionism and that this fight would culminate in the assertion of the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine to create an independent state.

Yasir 'Arafat wished the fraternal CPCZ further successes.

Honecker, Party Leaders Praise Summit

LD171340 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1045 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 17 Dec (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received on Thursday Dr Guenter Maleuda, chairman of the Democratic Peasants' Party of Germany (DBD); Gerald Goetting, chairman of the Christian-Democratic Union of Germany (CDU); Professor Manfred Gerlach, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany (LDPD); Professor Heinrich Homann, chairman of the National Front of the GDR, for an exchange of views on the meeting of the leading representatives of the Warsaw Pact states in Berlin and on the fifth session of the SED Central Committee.

In the course of the discussion, Erich Honecker and his interlocutors paid tribute to the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Washington as proof that a constructive approach to the issues of world politics makes it possible to reach agreements on the preservation of mankind from a nuclear inferno in spite of all resistance and obstacles.

The chance has been given to pursue on a lasting basis a course that leads away from the arms build-up toward disarmament and detente. One expression of this is the treaty between the USSR and the United States on the removal of their medium and shorter-range missiles, which shows the possibility of such a change.

The citizens of the GDR, it was noted, regard this first real disarmament measure, which must be followed by others, as the fulfillment of their fundamental personal interests. In the realization that everyone wants to and must make his contribution if the inferno of a war is to be prevented, they are acting in accordance with the proven maxim: "My Workplace—My Place in the Struggle for Peace."

On the basis of the report by Mikhail Gorbachev on his meetings with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the participants in the discussion reviewed the current international situation and the foreign policy tasks of the GDR. In the awareness that it has played an active role in the creation of the treaty signed in Washington, the GDR will also do all in its power for the implementation of the treaty.

Erich Honecker stressed the importance of the agreement in principle to reduce by half strategic offensive weapons on both sides with strict observance of the ABM treaty. Over and above that, the results achieved created the framework for banning chemical weapons, ending nuclear tests, reducing tactical nuclear weapons still remaining in Europe, and finally removing them, as well as drastically reducing forces and conventional arms from the Atlantic to the Urals with strict verification.

For these, as for all the other questions of arms limitation and disarmament, the initiatives of the Warsaw Pact, as their joint peace programs show, open up new paths which both sides can follow.

The chairmen of the DBD, the CDU, the LDPD, the NDPD and the president of the National Council of the National Front agreed with the general secretary of the SED Central Committee that after the Washington summit influential circles of the military-industrial complex in the United States and Western Europe are making enormous efforts to compensate for disarmament in one area with an arms build-up in other areas.

Responsibile policy demands that one should not strive for military superiority, but instead should strive to ensure a peaceful future for the present and coming generations. As has been the case up until now, the vigorous action of the socialist countries, the cooperation of all forces of reason and realism in the world are decisive factors in preserving the positive tendencies in the international arena and further deepening them. The work of all the forces united in the GDR National Front was and is aimed at this.

The fifth session of the SED Central Committee has shown, as was jointly stressed, that the GDR is well equipped for handling the forthcoming tasks. Workers, cooperative farmers, members of the scientific-technological and artistic intelligentsia, craftsmen and trades people, citizens of all sections of society, whether young or old, want to do their best to contribute to the good of the people and its peaceful future.

In the resolutions of the 11th party congress, we have a course which is well tried in practice, which serves the interests of society and of every individual on the basis of the unity of economic and social policy, which guarantees social security and the ever-better satisfaction of intellectual and cultural needs. Thus we are realizing the ideals of freedom, democracy, and human dignity by strengthening socialism. To prevent this great work falling victim to insane warlike plans, we are struggling to secure peace through arms limitation and disarmament, through our contribution to the victory of the policy of peaceful coexistence. At the same time we are protecting what we have achieved and our socialist homeland against any attack directed against us and our cause.

The 1988 economic plan embodies our shared goals. Discussed in the well-proven way with members of all classes and sections of society, examined conscientiously in the committees and parliamentary groups, the draft plan will now go before the fifth session of the People's Chamber, and we are convinced that it will become the law governing the actions of all citizens.

The chairmen of the friendly parties and the president of the National Council of the GDR National Front expressed their full agreement with the future domestic

and foreign policy tasks set out in Erich Honecker's winding-up speech to the fifth session of the SED Central Committee. As partners in the alliance with the party of the working class, they regard his speech as confirming their desire to draw every citizen into active collaboration in the further shaping of developed socialist society in the GDR.

The leading bodies in the DBD, the CDU, the LDPD, and the NDPD will shortly be meeting for discussions to lay down the tasks for their members in pursuing the policy of securing peace and strengthening the socialist GDR in the coming year.

The meeting was attended by Joachim Herrmann, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and by Central Committee department head Karl Vogel.

Committee Notes GDR Contribution

LD191536 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1743 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 17 Dec ADN—The Foreign Affairs Committee of the GDR People's Chamber has paid tribute to the agreement on the elimination of the medium-range missiles of longer and shorter range signed at the Washington summit by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan. It had historic implications, said the deputies in Berlin on Thursday at a meeting chaired by committee chairman Hermann Axen.

The committee strongly emphasized the constructive contribution of the party and state leadership of the GDR to the realization of this first nuclear disarmament agreement.

Committee Approves Honecker Endorsement

AU211624 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 18 Dec 87 p 6

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—On Thursday [17 December] the Foreign Affairs Committee of the People's Chamber, under the direction of Deputy Hermann Axen, its chairman, held a session in Berlin.

The committee deputies approved completely of the tribute paid by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, to the historic significance of the agreement on the liquidation of medium-range missiles of longer and shorter range, signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan at the Washington summit. The constructive contribution of the GDR party and state leadership in reaching this first agreement of nuclear disarmament was especially emphasized.

The deputies received information on topical foreign political questions given by Dr Herbert Krolikowski, state secretary and first deputy minister for foreign affairs.

Claus Gaedt, deputy minister for foreign trade, reported to the committee on the fulfillment of the 1987 foreign trade plan.

Fischer Receives FRG Disarmament Official

LD180008 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1725 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin 17 Dec (ADN)—Oskar Fischer, GDR minister for foreign affairs today received Ambassador Dr Josef Holik, the FRG Government's representative for disarmament matters, for a talk.

The two men agreed that the trend for better international relations, introduced with the treaty on medium-range missiles, must be turned into a lasting one. A pause in the disarmament process must not be allowed. This applied particularly to a 50-percent reduction in the strategic nuclear offensive weapons of the United States and the USSR with the preservation of the ABM treaty, a global ban on chemical weapons, a progressive halt to nuclear weapons tests and a drastic reduction also in conventional forces and arms in Europe under strict verification.

Oskar Fischer and Josef Holik evaluated what have meanwhile become regular disarmament consultations as an important element of the possibilities for deepening the political dialogue discussed during Erich Honecker's visit to the FRG.

Taking part in the talk was Hans-Otto Braeutigam, the FRG's permanent representative in the GDR. Dr. Josef Holik is in the GDR for consultations with GDR Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Kurt Nier on disarmament questions.

Winter Receives Arab League Ambassadors

AU211612 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 19-20 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—On Friday [18 December] Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, GDR deputy minister for foreign affairs, received the ambassadors of Syria, the PLO, Tunisia, and Sudan, upon their request for a friendly talk in Berlin. On behalf of their counterparts from the Arab League member states accredited in the GDR, the ambassadors reported on the present situation in the Arab areas occupied by Israel. They thanked the GDR party and state leadership and social organizations for their solidarity expressed in many ways.

Dr Winter affirmed the GDR's support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the PLO leadership.

Minister Visits Libya, Confers With Officials

AU171718 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 15 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] Tripoli (ADN)—Werner Buschmann, GDR minister of light industry, was received for a friendly talk in Tripoli by 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee of Libya. Minister Buschmann was staying in Libya on the occasion of the eighth meeting of the Joint Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation. Both sides viewed the meeting as an expression of the desire to strengthen bilateral relations on the basis of mutual advantage.

At the end of the meeting Minister Buschmann and the chairman of the Libyan side, Ahmed Mohammed Ibrahim [spelling as published], signed an agreement on the outcome of the talks. Both sides agreed to further expanding economic and trade relations.

Further on People's Chamber Deliberations

Stoph Presents 1988 Plan

LD181908 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1425 GMT 18 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 18 Dec ADN—The GDR People's Chamber met for its fifth session in Berlin on Friday. The draft for next year's economic plan was proposed by Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers. The GDR premier said, among other things:

The goals for 1988 are determined by the necessity to further raise performance in all spheres of the economy and step up the production efficiency on the path of comprehensive intensification. This is of fundamental importance for the successful continuation of the main task of benefitting our people, strengthening socialism, and the preservation of peace.

It is part of the essence of socialist democracy in the GDR to actively include the working people and all other citizens in the fostering of political commitment and in the drafting and fulfillment of social tasks.

The 1988 economic plan was also drafted with this basic idea in mind. With the creative participation of the trade unions, over 6.2 million working people took part in discussions of the plan and submitted more than 649,000 proposals for tapping reserves in performance and efficiency, for perfecting management, planning, and economic accountability, and for further improving working and living conditions. At the same time, they expressed their determination to devote all their strength, through higher personal performance, to the fulfillment and, wherever possible, overfulfillment of the plan.

As a whole, it can be stated that economic growth in the GDR continued successfully in 1987. As of the end of November, the GNP had increased by 4 percent, and industrial production had grown by 3.6 percent in the sphere under the industrial ministries; net production had grown by 6.1 percent; and labor productivity was up 6.5 percent. In important areas, particularly in the development and practical application of key technologies, significant achievements with high economic yields were attained.

Construction rose by 2.3 percent. In the implementation of the housing construction program, the core of the social policy of the party and government, as of the end of November 190,240 apartments had been built or modernized and living conditions for a further 571,000 citizens improved.

The cooperative farmers and all workers in the agricultural, forestry, and food industry have had high, stable performance with high achievements in crop and livestock production and in ensuring the supply of everyday products.

The results of 1987 can be assessed all the more highly since a series of factors beyond our control have hindered economic activity. The prolonged winter at the beginning of the year required additional expenditure of 4.6 billion marks.

There is an indissoluble link between our policy for the welfare of the people and the continuation of the foreign policy of the GDR, which is aimed at peace, disarmament, detente and mutually advantageous cooperation, as laid down by the 11th SED Congress. If one reviews most recent developments, one can see that the peace policy of socialism is exerting a profound and beneficial influence on the situation in world politics.

In firm alliance with the USSR and the other fraternal socialist countries, the GDR stands shoulder-to-shoulder with all those who support respect for basic human rights and the pursuit of peace. The GDR will continue to show itself to be an always reliable ally within the coalition of socialist states. We will strengthen and deepen the fraternal bond with the USSR and the other socialist states in an all-around way.

We fully support the efforts of the Soviet people in further restructuring their country. We cherish our friendship with the Soviet Union as one of our most precious achievements and the most important basis for previous and future successes.

In close cooperation with the USSR and all other socialist states, the GDR is working to strengthen the international positions of socialism.

Friendship and cooperation characterize relations between the GDR and the states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. In the countries and peoples of those parts of the world, the GDR sees important companions in striving for a world of political, military, and economic security. We continue our solidarity and give

support to their work to end the arms race on earth and to prevent its expansion into space; against exploitation, misery and oppression in any form; for political and economic relations based on equal rights; and against the imperialist interference and policy of aggression in the Middle East, Latin America, southern Africa, and in other regions.

Together with the states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, the GDR favors facing up to the challenges of our time through joint action in the international arena by all forces of reason and realism.

Thanks to the joint world-wide peace program of the Warsaw Pact states, inspired by the Soviet party and state leadership and by Mikhail Gorbachev personally—a program that is receiving more and more active support from the forces of peace, reason, and realism all over the world—we have succeeded for the first time in history in agreeing on the liquidation of the medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles of the USSR and the United States of America with the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty of 8 December 1987.

The GDR welcomes this treaty, as it does the agreement in principle that there will be further negotiations on a reduction of the strategic offensive weapons with preservation of the ABM treaty. These results of the meeting of the top representatives of the USSR and the United States of America are a great encouragement and at the same time an appeal to all forces interested in the preservation of peace to open further the door to disarmament and detente.

The GDR contributed to these Soviet-U.S. summit agreements with its persistence and consistency, with firmness of principle, and also with flexibility. It will continue to do everything within its power to put into practice the peace program of socialism which was reaffirmed and further developed by the Berlin meeting of the Warsaw Treaty states in May of this year. Renewed proof of this is the agreement signed by the GDR, the USSR, and the CSSR on 11 December on inspections in connection with the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of their medium- and shorter-range missiles.

The start to the real nuclear disarmament that has now been initiated has a beneficial effect on the international climate. To embark on this path and to go further along it will lead perceptibly to more trust and stability. Included in this are urgently-needed disarmament measures in other spheres, as well, such as a halving of the strategic offensive weapons of the USSR and the United States of America, the guaranteeing of peace in space, a halt to all nuclear tests, the elimination of chemical weapons, and a drastic reduction in forces and conventional arms from the Atlantic to the Urals. Existing asymmetries should be eliminated by disarmament and not by arms build-ups.

All this means gearing the military doctrines of the alliances exclusively towards defense, as already proposed by the Warsaw Pact states at their Berlin meeting.

The treaty has now been signed, but it has not been ratified. We do not overlook the fact that the most aggressive forces of imperialism and NATO have by no means given up their efforts for military superiority and global hegemony or their resistance to the treaty.

Extremely dangerous are the plans to undermine the results of the double-zero option through the introduction of new weapons systems in order to limit the process of disarmament and in this way not to disarm but to "re-equip." Great efforts are required from all states and peoples, especially now, so that what has been agreed upon in Washington becomes reality.

Situated in the middle of Europe, the GDR is continuing its activities for progress in reducing the high level of military confrontation in this region and to expand trust and cooperation in such a way that they make possible a lasting, peaceful coexistence of all inhabitants.

The policy of the GDR is and will remain based on the conviction that, despite the complicated nature of things, there is no problem in the world today that cannot be resolved through negotiations. Our policy of active dialogue for disarmament and peaceful coexistence, which is based on reason and realism, helps promote understanding of the indispensability of political thought and action appropriate to the nuclear space age. Here the personal contribution of the leading representative of our state, Comrade Erich Honecker, finds worldwide recognition.

The GDR also incorporates the development of its relations with the FRG in this policy of preservation of peace. Erich Honecker's official visit to the FRG underscores changes of great consequence in this relationship, which are important for all of Europe. Thus, agreement was reached that the two German states must work actively to further a reduction in nuclear, chemical, and conventional arms and the replacement of confrontation with mutually advantageous cooperation.

This included recognition once and for all of the following realities: There are two German states, whose independence of each other, equality, and inviolability of borders constitute decisive factors for stability, calm, and security on the the whole European Continent. It was pointed out to those who still support a so-called open German question that socialism and capitalism can be united as little as fire and water.

If the two German states are always guided by respect for sovereignty, equality, and noninterference, by objectivity, reliability, and a proper regard for legitimate interests, then continued progress will be made in relations between the GDR and the FRG. The agreed joint communique offers sufficient possibilities for this.

The submitted draft law for the 1988 economic plan, in terms of content and targets, is based on the requirements of the economic strategy up to the year 2000 as stipulated by the 11th SED Congress. The aim is to increase rapidly production and its efficiency in line with the growing needs of socialist society and the demands stemming from international development next year and to increase the pace even more in certain areas.

Thus, it is planned to increase GNP by 4.1 percent net production; in the sphere under the industrial ministries by 8.0 percent; and industrial commodity production by 4.1 percent. This growth rate—which is considerable even in international terms—requires energetically and comprehensively accelerating the entire economy.

The 1988 draft plan is based on the aim of linking the advantages of socialism even more successfully with the achievements of the scientific-technical revolution. In this, the introducion of the key technologies has a decisive place.

The modernization of fixed assets for the safeguarding and further expansion of the existing production potential is to be continued in a concentrated and resolute manner. Improved time-utilization of the existing fixed assets, in particular of the most important production equipment, continues to represent a large reserve.

Each enterprise, cooperative, and institution is obliged to carry out the growing tasks with the available labor force. Wishful thinking in this question leads nowhere, but merely diverts attention from the task of increasing labor productivity more quickly and providing the necessary workforce by this means. In this connection, we are in a more favorable situation in our socialist state when one sees the conditions prevailing in the FRG and other capitalist countries, who have mass unemployment and no future for people of 35 or 40 or for the young.

In the end, all our efforts will only lead to the necessary results in increasing the national income if we succeed in energetically reducing primary costs in all spheres of the economy and in generating high profits. This is the main source of the stability of state finances typical of the socialist state and of the comprehensive social security benefits.

In 1988 prime costs must be reduced by 1.6 percent and the cost of materials by 1.7 percent in industry.

As a highly efficient industrial state, the GDR is still taking an active part in the international socialist division of labor within the framework of the CEMA, and it derives from it significant scientific-technological and material potential. The 1988 plan contains specific tasks based on the long-term program of cooperation between the GDR and the USSR in the sphere of science, technology, and production for the period up to the year 2000, and the corresponding long-term programs with the other socialist countries. Trade will be developed in a planned way on the basis of demand in the economies of the fraternal countries and with more efficient use of specialization and cooperation.

Economic and scientific-technological cooperation with the developing countries will also be developed in a planned way to mutual advantage.

Working on the principles of peaceful coexistence, the GDR is pursuing trade with the capitalist industrial countries on the basis of mutual advantage. In so doing we presuppose that these relations will develop free from any political or economic discrimination, boycotts or embargoes.

A firm component of the plan documents are the economic tasks involved in securing national defense and internal security and order.

It is envisaged in the coal and energy industry that the GDR's energy supplies will be further consolidated by the better use of existing capacity and the introduction of new capacity. We are working on the assumption that lignite coal is and remains our most important source of energy.

Electricity supply is growing according to plan through the start of testing of block 5 in the Nord Nuclear Power Plant and of block 6 in the Jaenschwalde Lignite Power Plant. Nuclear safety is being comprehensively ensured in the use of nuclear energy. The consumption of energy per unit of national income produced is to be reduced by 3.8 percent. There must be more full use of secondary energy, the cheapest source of energy.

By increasing production of highly refined products by 3.4 percent, the workers of the metallurgical industry are to create important preconditions for lowering energy consumption in many areas of the economy.

The combines of the chemical industry will have to solve significant tasks in 1988 in supplying raw materials and semifinished products for the economy and for export and consumer goods for the people. We plan better use of native hydrocarbon raw materials, raising production of high-quality plastics and elastomers and of basic materials for microelectronics. By means of the greater refining of the available petroleum, the production of light oils will be raised to 69 percent.

In 1988, electrical engineering and electronics and mechanical engineering will provide essential impetus for technical and technological progress, as well as for a noticeable improvement in supplies of industrial consumer goods.

To this end, microelectronics in particular is to be developed rapidly. It will be used to an increasing degree in highly productive machines and equipment, and in industrial consumer goods.

We envisage high rates of growth for the mechanical engineering combines. At the same time, it is important to adapt the range of products even more quickly to the growing demands arising at home and on foreign markets.

We will be devoting particular attention to the increased production of spare parts.

The performance of light industry will be purposefully increased in line with our possibilities and the introduction of new technological processes and equipment. Thus, the population expects those in responsible positions in this branch of industry to deliver high growth and make better quality goods for sale, particularly in outer clothing, outer knitwear, work clothes, professional clothing, and shoes.

Those employed in the construction sector are given great responsibility in the 1988 national economic plan for carrying out construction tasks aimed at further expanding the material and technical bases of the national economy and for the home-building program as the heart of the SED's social policy. In this, new construction, reconstruction, modernization, and maintenance of valuable building stock must be linked even more effectively. The standard of success for this area is by best satisfying the citizens' housing requirements.

The agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs sector in the coming year, too, must ensure a stable supply of high-value foodstuffs to the population and abundant raw materials for industry.

The intensification of crop production continues to be our focus. For 1988 the target is a total yeild of at least 30.6 million tons of grain equivalent units, including at least 11.4 million tons of grain. To further improve supplies to the population, state purchases of vegetables are to be increased to 1.54 million tons and of fruit to 772,000 tons.

In livestock production the planned growth must be achieved on the basis of domestic fodder by increasing output per animal while stock numbers remain the same.

In the foodstuffs sector it is particularly necessary to process and refine the agricultural raw materials with even greater efficiency. The material and technical bases of the foodstuffs sector will be further strengthened in the coming year.

Significant funds will be made available in 1988 for protection of the natural environment. A focal point here is the development and introduction of production processes low in or free of waste products, even up to closed material cycles. Greater efforts will be for desulfurization of emissions and for reducing the emission of nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons.

Greater efforts are needed to connect the households of a further 227,000 citizens to the central drinking water supply, which will then raise the proportion of those connected to almost 94 percent.

In steadfast continuation of the main task, the 1988 National Economic Plan provides, in accordance with the growing strength of economic performance, for further improvements in people's working and living conditions. Here, the focal point is the housing construction program for the solution of the housing question as a social problem by 1990. In 1988 211,462 homes will be built or modernized. Thus, living conditions will improve for some 630,000 citizens.

The supply of industrial goods, especially clothing—including young people's fashions, household and do-it-yourself equipment—products of the household electronics industry, home furnishings, and leisure goods, will be increased above average in 1988. Here, development and production of goods particularly in demand must be ensured. We are consistently continuing the proven policy of stable consumer prices for basic goods and for rents, fares and services.

Improved performances in the spheres of education, child raising and health and social care will contribute effectively to the further shaping of the socialist way of life and promote the all-round development of socialist personalities. Thus, it is again apparent to the whole world that socialism alone is in a position to realize the humanistic ideals for all people. Material conditions for the work of artists and cultural workers in the GDR will be further improved, especially with realistic and forward-looking depictions of the struggles of our time, they make a great contribution to the development and deepening of the values of socialism for a fine and meaningful life for all citizens.

Managerial activity is to be further improved primarily in the following direction:

1. From an overall state point of view, the planned, proportionate development of all branches and spheres is to be guaranteed at all times. This is the precondition for mastering comprehensively the national economic reproduction process and for accelerating the cycle of intensively expanded reproduction as a whole. It is on this basis that cooperative relations are to be stably shaped and all contracts strictly adhered to.

2. State and plan discipline must be constantly consolidated and everywhere there must be an end to cover ups.

3. The obligation to generalize the best experiences and results of plan fulfillment in all responsible circles is considered to be the chief aspect of managerial activity.

4. The unity of high production growth, supply to the domestic market, and for export goods for which there is a demand, while reducing costs and keeping to all contracts, must be increasingly better mastered.

The draft of the 1988 National Economic Plan tabled for adoption today is a demanding program for unified action by all on our main battlefield—the unity of economic and social policy.

Mittag Gives SED Plan Approval

LD191146 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1610 GMT 18 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 18 Dec (ADN)—In the discussion at the People's Chamber session, Guenter Mittag, member of the SED Politburo and Central Committee Secretary, said that the SED parliamentary group approves the draft laws on the 1988 Economic Plan and State Budget plan. The goals contained in the draft laws are aimed at further shaping the advanced socialist society, guaranteeing dynamic economic growth, and steadily continuing the course of the unity of economic and social policy, full employment, and the further unfolding of socialist democracy. "This is in accordance with the decisions of the 11th SED Congress and we are resolutely determined to continue to implement these decisions," the speaker stated.

As Erich Honecker stressed in his concluding speech at the fifth session of the SED Central Committee, the course of the unity of economic and social policy based on healthy economic growth will be resolutely continued in the GDR in 1988. The economic strategy, which has already been tried and tested, points the way to this.

The economic and social goals underlying the plans cannot be separated from the policy aimed at peace preservation. The prevention of a nuclear inferno so that mankind can survive is the decisive issue.

The conclusion of a treaty between the USSR and the United States on the scrapping of their medium- and shorter-range missiles between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan on 8 December this year meets with unreserved approval and support in the GDR, the speaker said.

What has now been achieved is a victory for human common sense in the nuclear age. And we can rightly state: the GDR, on the dividing line between the two social systems in Europe, has made an active and constructive contribution to this.

A new situation arose 5 years ago when, against the will of the majority of the peoples, the stationing of Pershing-2 and cruise missiles was started in Western Europe. It was necessary, more intensively than ever, to utilize all international possibilities and in particular to conduct a political dialogue in order to exercise a calming influence on the international situation and not allow things to come to the worst. Words which have even now lost none of their validity were coined at the time: the struggle to avert a nuclear world war and for an end to the arms race is to be continued now more than ever. It is better at all costs to negotiate 10 times than to shoot once. Realism and common sense must gain the upper hand.

The GDR party and state leadership worked to bring about a broad coalition of reason and realism in numerous meetings with foreign statemen and representatives of forces interested in peace. All this is in the interests of the people of the GDR.

The 1988 plan was aimed at the further implementation of the decisions stipulated by the 11th SED Congress. A few general economic tasks and experiences which are important for future work should be stressed on the basis of what has been achieved and future demands:

The growth in economic performance has now been entirely sustained by the increase in labor productivity for 2 years. We must continue in future to proceed on the assumption that all growth in performance can be achieved solely through an increase in labor productivity.

Next year will be decisive for the fulfillment of our 5-year plan. It is therefore of great importance to tackle even more resolutely and thoroughly those factors which determine the pace of increase in labor productivity. The decisive factor here is to save man-hours through scientific and technological measures.

The plan for 1988 also involves increasing the qualitative level of production, both of the products and of technologies for their manufacture. The proportion of new products possessing high utility value which can be produced at low cost and sold on international markets for a good price must further increase. Such outstanding performances as the development of a production cell for lathe work at the machine tool combines "7 October" and "Fritz Heckert" are an example for this. The cell makes possible an increase in labor productivity in flexible production systems of 500 to 600 percent

In addition, there was the universal programming and development system P8000 for the automated programming of microcomputer controls, including the software, at the Berlin-Treptow Electical Equipment Works. Top performances also include the 32-byte memory circuit from the Carl Zeiss Jena Combine, with which the GDR has once again broken an embargo. It is assumed that by the end of this year 43,000 CAD/CAM work-stations will be in use, that in 1988 a further 23,500 CAD/CAM work stations will be added and, over and above this, 15,620 industrial robots will come into use. The most important thing is the preparation of the people for the broad application of microelectronics.

Investment must be used in a targeted way for socialist rationalization. An inseparable component of every investment is an improvement in working and living conditions. It must not be tolerated that forces and resources envisaged for the strengthening of the performance of industry will be used elsewhere. Plan discipline is state discipline. The central question is that everyone meets his responsibility for the fulfillment of the plan tasks set and does not attempt to evade them. There is, so to speak, "for internal use" the hazy term "plan adjustment". This does not mean a breakdown of the plan tasks or thoughts about reserves which are necessary for their fulfillment, but a lowering of the plan. But the fact is "the plan is the plan". Everything must be done in order to ensure the folfillment of the plan targets set.

A significant source of strength for stable and secure long-term economic development lies in the deepening of the scientific and technological and economic cooperation of the GDR with the USSR and the other socialist countries. At present over 170 agreements and 33 branch programmes between the GDR and other socialist countries are being implemented. In the GDR today one in three people in science and technology are working on cooperation projects. At the present time there are already 119 specific agreements for direct cooperation between combines, associations, and enterprises in the GDR and the USSR.

The bills submitted further the solution of the housing question as a social problem by the year 1990, said the deputy from the SED group. The home building program is the core of the GDR's social policy, because it concerns people, families, and their social well-being. How people live is of prime interest to our socialist state, Guenter Mittage said. Here in the GDR the housing question is a component part of the plan. In 1988 30.5 billion marks will be used for the plan tasks aimed at further improving living conditions.

The spirit and basic concern of the unity of economic and social policy is that it is visible and tangible for the citizens. The consumer goods offered and a further improvement in services are of prime significance in this. This applies to the securing of basic requirements in line with the proven principles of price policy, and it equally requires that developing demand be taken account of through new consumer goods with greater utility value in better quality being offered in a varied range and in appropriate quantities.

In agriculture it is necessary further to increase the contribution to the good and constantly improving provision to the population of foodstuffs and to industry of raw materials from domestic production. It is necessary to develop agriculture even more comprehensively as a branch of applied science.

The greatest contribution for the stable and surplus-producing state budget is produced by the publicly-owned economy, with a proportion of almost 80 percent, the speaker said. It is apparent what is being done through the state budget for the strengthening of the economy and how at the same time science, education, health and social services, culture and sport are developing and what is being done to ensure internal security and defense strength, because stable economic development and social security inconceivable without reliable protection.

It is this socialist plan economy which guarantees growth while maintaining full employment and dynamic development in performance with a maximum of social security. In it our old but repeatedly proven slogan "join in working, planning, and governing" is in effect day in day out, Guenter Mittag noted. Over 6 million working people took part, the speaker said, and 1.3 million spoke in over 341,000 trade union member assemblies for discussion of the plan. Over 649,000 proposals submitted were taken account of in the draft plans. This is socialist democracy in action.

This democratic involvement in work, the decisive area of human activity, is legally guaranteed through the Constitution and the laws and decrees issued on its basis. In our country democracy does not stop at the factory gate; that is where it really starts. It is a main field of social activity, Guenter Mittag noted.

Leaders Public Appearances 9-15 December

AU181445 [Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 10 to 16 December reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication in parentheses):

The following GDR leaders took part in a hunting expedition of the diplomatic corps in Magdeburg on 15 December: Willi Stoph, member of the GDR Council of Ministers, and the members and candidate members of the SED Central Committee Politburo Hermann Axen, Horst Dohlus, Werner Eberlein, Werner Felfe, Joachim Herrmann, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowski, Guenter Mittag, Harry Tisch, Inge Lange, Margarete Mueller, and Gerhard Schuerer. (16 December, p 1)

Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Dr Alberto Indelicato, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic, in East Berlin on 9 December. (10 December, p 6)

Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, headed a delegation attending a wreath-laying ceremony to mark last year's death of SED official Paul Verner in East Berlin on 11 December. (12-13 December, p 6) Horst Dohlus also conveyed congratulations to Heinz Widenhain, SED Central Committee Department director, on his 60th birthday in East Berlin on 11 December. (12-13 December, p 6)

Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, chaired a session of the People's Chamber Public Education Committee in East Berlin on 10 December. (11 December, p 4)

Werner Jarowinski, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, chaired a session of the People's Chamber Trade and Supply Committee in East Berlin on 10 December. (11 December, p 4)

Siegfried Lorenz, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Karl-Marx-Stadt Bezirk leadership, familiarized himself with the achievements of the "Fritz Heckert" Machine Tool Combine in Karl-Marx-Stadt on 9 December. (10 December, p 6)

Erich Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Central Party Control Commission, received a delegation of the PZPR Central Control and Auditing Commission headed by Leszek Grzybowski, head of the Control and Auditing Office, in East Berlin on 14 December. (15 December, p 2) Erich Mueckenberger, president of the GDR-Soviet Friendship Society, also addressed a Presidium session of the Central Executive Committee of the GDR-Soviet Friendship Society in East Berlin on 15 December. (16 December p 2)

Guenter Schabowski, member of the SED Central Committee and first secretary of the Berlin Bezirk leadership, met with needlewomen and female engineers of a Berlin VEB; date not given. (11 December, p 8)

Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the FDGB National Executive Council, received Alfred Miodowicz, chairman of the All-Polish Trade Union Center (OPZZ) and member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo, in East Berlin on 9 December. (10 December, p 6)

Varkonyi Concludes Visit to Egypt

Communique Issued on Talks

AU171703 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 16 Dec 87 p 2

[MTI communique on the Hungarian-Egyptian foreign ministerial talks held in Cairo between 12 and 15 December: "Hungarian-Egyptian Communique"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi paid an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 12 to 15 December at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ahmed 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid.

The head of Hungarian diplomacy was received by President Husni Mubarak. Peter Varkonyi conveyed to the Egyptian president a written message from Presidential Council President Karoly Nemeth. Peter Varkonyi was also received by Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi.

Peter Varkonyi paid a courtesy visit to 'Ali Lutfi, chairman of the Shura district council. He held talks with Deputy Prime Minister Yusuf Wali, minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and with Justice Minister Faruq al-Nasar.

At the talks, held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, Peter Varkonyi and the Egyptian leaders exchanged views on the international situation and reviewed the development of bilateral relations and the possibilities of further deepening cooperation.

They concluded that the two countries have identical or similar positions concerning the major international issues.

They welcomed the more favorable trends emerging in the international situation and the Soviet-U.S. agreement on the elimination of medium-and short-range nuclear missiles. They expressed their countries' intention to continue to actively contribute to consolidating world peace and security and strengthening international cooperation.

At the talks special attention was given to the Middle East crisis. They agreed that a UN-sponsored international conference with the participation of all the affected sides, including the PLO and the five permanent members of the Security Council, is the most suitable forum to solve the crisis.

The Hungarian foreign minister and his Egyptian negotiating partners concluded with satisfaction that the bilateral relations between Hungary and Egypt have steadily continued to develop in all areas in recent years. Economic relations have become richer through new forms of cooperation. They expressed their countries' readiness to reach further progress—by making use of the still uncovered possibilities—in the mutually advantageous economic and trade relations and in the cooperation that has emerged in the areas of culture and information.

In the course of the visit, the two sides signed an agreement on criminal legal assistance and a tourist work program. Peter Varkonyi lectured the leading representatives of Egyptian political and public life on the foreign policy of the Hungarian People's Republic.

Peter Varkonyi invited Ahmad Ismat 'Abd al-Majid to visit Hungary, and the invitation was accepted with thanks.

Interviewed by Cairo Paper

JN161303 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 12 Dec 87 p 5

[Interview with Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi by Muhammad Salmawi in Budapest; date not given]

[Text] [Salmawi] Varkonyi's eyes shine as he says: I was in Cairo when we celebrated the arrival of the 1,000th Hungarian bus in Egypt. In 1957 I attended the reception held by the Arabic Language Academy in Cairo for the great Hungarian orientalist Gyula Germanos [as published] when he was accepted as an honorary member of the academy.

I begin my talk with the Hungarian foreign minister by asking him about Hungarian foreign policy in general: What is its philosophy, what are its motives, and how does it differ on many occasions from the policies of other socialist countries, despite the fact that the socialist countries are viewed as one bloc adopting the same foreign and domestic policies. Before I could complete my question the minister gently interrupted, saying:

[Varkoniy] I do not know why the world is surprised to see a Hungarian foreign policy that may be different or distinguishable from the foreign policy of Romania, for instance, or Czechoslovakia. Socialist countries do not claim to have the same historic, ethnic, religious, or linguistic ties that exist among the Arab states, and yet each Arab state has its own independent foreign policy.

Some people often forget that each socialist country has its own conditions that dictate its foreign policy.

We in Hungary, for instance, rely a great deal on foreign trade. Indeed, foreign trade provides one-half of Hungary's national income and, consequently, we cannot afford to be an inward looking state.

We are also members of the Warsaw Pact. Such membership defines some of the constant factors that have a priority in our policy. I do not find complete homogeneity among NATO states, for example, so why should we have such homogeneity here?

We are also members of Comecon. Comecon is a very important market because it is a guaranteed market despite all the international changes that may occur in other markets.

In view of the fact that as a state Hungary is outward looking, it is affected by world events and, consequently, that reflects upon its foreign policy.

That, very briefly, is my view of the basic tenets of our foreign policy.

[Salmawi] Before I moved on to my next question, Varkonyi offered me a cigarette. I asked him if it was a Hungarian cigarette. He replied: No, it is an American cigarette. I hope I did not embarass you unintentionally. However, he adds, tactfully and wittily: I brought it especially because I know you prefer them in Egypt.

I then turned to relations between Egypt and Hungary and asked the Hungarian foreign minister: There has been tangible improvement in relations between Egypt and Hungary in recent years. How do you view the potential and possibilities for further progress in relations in future?

[Varkonyi] It pleases us that relations between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Arab Republic of Egypt have grown gradually and steadily into multifaceted relations since the middle 1980s. Now I can say that relations between our two countries are characterized by mutual respect and constant attempts by the two sides to achieve new formulas of cooperation that are more beneficial to the two parties.

With regard to some of the important international issues, we have identical views on some issues and similar views on others, thus creating a favorable political climate for further development in economic, cultural, and scientific fields.

The volume of trade between us—and it has reached $100 million in the past years—indicates that our economic relations are founded on a solid basis that permits continued cooperation.

We in Hungary believe that conditions exist for continued development in our bilateral relations. In developing our relations we can rely on the results achieved thus far and on our joint interest in strengthening our political and economic relations.

I believe the best beginning to develop our relations is your 5-year plan and our government's new program, as both of them open wide horizons for international cooperation. For instance, we are prepared to assist in the implementation of the goals of your 5-year plan and to study all proposals on cooperation in that regard, both with regard to cooperation in production and benefitting from experience in some agricultural fields and cooperation in the fields of self-sufficiency. The Hungarian market is open to Egyptian products. There are also great opportunities for promoting cooperation in tourism. Tourism is a very important field that has not yet been exploited by us.

[Salmawi] The Egyptian and Hungarian views both agree that the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question can be resolved only through an international conference. How can Hungary work for the convening of such a conference?

[Varkonyi] Hungarian foreign policy has always attached great importance to the Middle East crisis, because we consider it one of the world's most important, serious flashpoints that strongly influences the international situation.

We have often expressed the belief that the Middle East crisis must be resolved peacefully while taking into account the interests of all the parties concerned. Consequently, the idea of an international conference has met with great support not only by Hungary but also by the entire international community.

We do not see any way to achieve peace in the Middle East, safeguard the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and to guarantee the borders and security of area countries other than joint international action. We still believe that the international conference is the most appropriate formula for achieving such objectives.

Accordingly, Hungary is prepared with its modest resources to initiate dialogue and to establish cooperation with all the parties likely to contribute toward reaching a solution to the crisis or toward facilitating the convening of an international conference.

The recent meeting in Budapest between representatives of the PLO and peace-seeking Israeli forces was held within such a framework.

[Salmawi] This meeting has created various reactions in the Arab homeland, especially since the eastern bloc states are known for their support for the Palestine question. This cast a shadow—whether this is right or wrong—on your commitment to a comprehensive solution. What is your current stand toward the Palestine question and ways to settle it?

[Varkonyi] Since the Palestine question is the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict, then a settlement of this question cannot be achieved except through a comprehensive, just, and lasting settlement. Moreover, the Middle East crisis cannot be settled without resolving the Palestine question. We are certain that the international conference which should be attended by all of parties to the conflict, including the PLO and the UN Security Council

permanent member states, should guarantee the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establishing their independent state. The Hungarian People's Republic has always supported the Palestinian people, their just struggle, and legitimate rights.

[Salmawi] Despite all of the international community's attempts to end the Iraq-Iran war—attempts which were embodied in the UN resolution calling for a cease-fire, the war continues. In your opinion, how can this war, which poses threats to international security, be stopped?

[Varkonyi] It is really regrettable that the situation has recently escalated seriously in the Gulf region. The issue which further complicated the situation is the presence of foreign military forces in the region. The possibility of the involvement of other regional states in the war is now more serious than it was at the beginning of the conflict. We consider UN Security Council Resolution 598 as a good basis to settle the crisis. It is true that there has been no tangible progress regarding the implementation of this resolution; however, we believe the possibility of implementing it still exists.

We believe it is necessary to exert further efforts within the framework of the United Nations to implement this resolution in addition to the UN secretary general's efforts. The discussion of this issue at the summit held between Soviet leader Gorbachev and U.S. President Reagan and the consultations that preceded this summit will undoubtedly give an impetus to the efforts to settle the crisis. We believe the presence of foreign military forces in the region will not help achieve a political settlement, and that the withdrawal of these forces is necessary to ease tension. We also believe that the freedom of navigation can be guaranteed through international cooperation and multiparty talks.

[Salmawi] Despite the fact that there are no Muslims in Hungary, contrary to other Eastern European states, an agreement was reached recently with some Islamic organizations to establish an Islamic center in Budapest. What is this center's task and what is Hungary's objective behind its establishment?

[Varkonyi] Despite the fact that the number of Muslims in Hungary is very small, Islam in Hungary has a long history. However, we are proud that we have introduced to the Islamic world a good number of orientalists such as Shandur Korozi Zuma Aniak Goldzheir, and Gyula Germanos [name as published], who once lectured at Al-Azhar University. All of these orientalists are well-known in the Arab world. Today, there is great interest in Hungary in Islam and in Islamic studies. This was embodied in the full translation of the Holy Koran from Arabic last month. Previous translations were from European languages. In addition, there are 40,000 tourists who come from the Arab and Islamic worlds to Hungary every year. Since there is freedom of religion in Hungary, Muslims have the right to perform their rites just like those who are affiliated with other religions.

The Islamic center will be established in a special location near the cemetery of Jul Papa [name as published], a Turkish Muslim. This is one of the most beautiful locations in the capital. The center's establishment will serve as a historical witness to the country's association with Islam.

I am glad to say that among the experts who participated in the studies on this project there were Egyptian architects because the Arabs have a deep-rooted history of Islamic architecture. We hope this Islamic center will be a new means to promote our cooperation with the Islamic world.

The minister concludes his statement by expressing his desire to visit Cairo which he has not visited for approximately 20 years.

Committee Deplores Israeli 'Terrorism'

LD211805 Budapest MTI in English
1659 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 21 (MTI)—In its Monday statement, the Hungarian Solidarity Committee expresses concern over the recent disquieting developments on the Israeli-occupied Arab territories. The Middle East conflict is aggravated by the violent action of the Israeli Army towards demonstrators against the occupation which has already claimed several lives. On behalf of the Hungarian people, the Solidarity Committee condemns the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territories and all forms of Israeli state terrorism affecting the civilian population protesting suppression.

The past two weeks of bloody events have repeatedly directed the attention of the world's public to the pressing need for a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East crisis and the enforcement of the Palestinians' right to self-determination. The Hungarian Solidarity Committee reiterates the view that an appropriate framework for the settlement of the conflict, which jeopardizes the peace and security of the world, could be provided by an international peace conference attended by the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, the statement says.

Nemeth Leaves on Visit to USSR

LD211125 Budapest MTI in English
1057 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 21 (MTI)—Miklos Nemeth, secretary of the Central Committee of the HSWP, left for the Soviet Union on Monday on the invitation of the

Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In his party is Imre Kovacs, head of the Economic Policy Department of the Central Committee.

Present at the Ferihegy seen off [as received] was Boris Stukalin, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Hungary.

Gorbachev's Book Published in Hungarian

LD212220 Budpaest MTI in English
1908 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 21 (MTI)—"Restructuring and New Thinking," the latest book of Mikhail Gorbachev has been published in Hungarian, after simultaneous publication in the Soviet Union and the United States. The book details the revolutionary nature of restructuring, the new Soviet economic and social policies, publicity and democratization and the main points of new Soviet foreign policy.

1988 Trade Protocol Signed with CSSR

LD182128 Budapest MTI in English
1939 GMT 18 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 18 (MTI)—Janos Ambrus, Hungarian deputy minister of trade, and Jan Stracar, deputy foreign trade minister of Czechoslovakia, signed the 1988 goods exchange protocol of the two countries in Budapest Friday. The envisaged figures are in excess of the 1987 accord.

Hungary continues to supply grain, edible oil, bauxite, alum earth and other materials, and Czechoslovakia coking coal, coke and building materials. In 1988 again, the proportion of machines and installations will be over 50 per cent, including growing quantities of Hungarian telecommunications goods, instruments, computer machines and peripheries, car industrial units and Ikarus articulated buses. There will be an increase in Czechoslovak deliveries of lorries, construction industrial machines and tractors. Nearly a third of deliveries will be made up by goods produced under production cooperation and specialization schemes. The agreement provides for the further development of domestic trade and cooperative exchanges and border-zone trade traffic, which accounts for almost a third of the total turnover.

Marjai, Berecz, Horvath Discuss Restructuring

LD211115 Budapest Television Service
in Hungarian 1800 GMT 20 Dec 87

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister Jozsef Marjai; Deputy Prime Minister Frigyes Berecz; and Interior Minister Istvan Horvath by unidentified correspondent on 16 December in parliament building prior to swearing in of parliament—recorded; from "the Week" program]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] In the next few minutes we will play host to three government members. This recording was made in the parliament building on Wednesday [16 December] just before the swearing in, with Jozsef Marjai, deputy prime minister and minister of trade.

The list of those areas which now, after a government reorganization, belong to you is rather long. What was the principle behind the restructuring in your area?

[Marjai] Comrade Grosz and the [word indistinct] of the government presented detailed reports on the situation and the tasks, and the united Ministry of Trade fits into this. In essence the entire goods turnover services and the commercial area will come under a united direction and handling. In the current situation it has the unique significance of making it possible to place into focus the most important objectives and work on them in a way which is successful and in accordance with their merit. The most important goals in 1988 are clear: We must create an active foreign trade surplus in order that a surplus of hard currency export should play the role instead of import control, while our foreign tourism income should grow. Meanwhile we must ensure a good supply to the population and, what's more, while adhering to the planned price level.

[Correspondent] What will your tasks be as deputy chairman of the government?

[Jarjai] As a deputy prime minister [my task will be] participating in the work of the government, helping in the work of the prime minister, and all that the prime minister commissions the deputy prime minister to do. In addition, there is the very wide area of international relations, particularly the CEMA, where I remained the representative, which generally goes hand in hand with the title of deputy prime minister.

[Correspondent] With your new duties there is also the question of work style. I do not know how to ask in such a way that it should be clear but in a way not causing offense to you? Everybody knows that you are a very thorough man who prefers to interest himself in the details of issues. I do not know whether I should continue?

[Marjai] You may continue. The opinion expressed about me is usually put much more harshly than this. Interestingly, it was questioned if under such difficult circumstances my work capacity will be sufficient for such a big task. I think that for the time being, at least to the extent that this task can be sized up, I can fulfill the task. Up to now, the comments and complaints against me do not concern my work capacity....

[Correspondent] But the work style.

[Marjai] Yes, the work style. [passage omitted] I think that under the present circumstances certain elements in my workstyle must not only be maintained but even strengthened. These are, for example, resolution, consistency, ability to decide, supervision, to make people account for their action. [passage omitted] I must continue to consider it a basic principle that I should ask everybody only as much as I can carry out myself. [passage omitted] [Correspondent] Frigyes Berecz

worked for 30 years at the Beloiannisz Telecommunications Enterprise. During the past year he became deputy prime minister from the enterprise's director general, and this week he was elected minister of industry. I think it has not been a great change in your life because you were dealing with industry as a deputy prime minister.

[Berecz] Well, both changes—the one last year and the one now too—have caught me a bit unprepared and have confused me too for a few days; but following from the logic of the situation I am now doing my duty. [passage omitted]

[Corespondent] What are your personal ideas regarding the direction of industry? Can there be personal ideas in such a post at all?

[Berecz] I think that what must be done cannot be separated from the qualities of the person. However, I would like to work toward achieving the best solution to the situation as a team achievement and that personal capabilities should mark less and less the work of the Ministry of Industry. [passage omitted] I totally agree with the changes taking place to the effect that the government membership has been cut to 17 and that the deputy prime ministerial decision-making level has been abolished. It follows from this logically that 5 deputy prime ministers in a new government of 17 would have been gratuitous. From this it follows logically that those specific issues which were dealt with at this level cannot be increasing; they cannot reach the table of the government but must get to desks of ministries, and they—with their increased independence—must tackle a larger number of tasks. However, it would not be proper either if the issues which have until now been dealt with by the deputy prime ministers and the government committees should now flood the tables of the ministers and the ministries. The tasks must move from the tables of the ministries too in some way, and it has only one logical route: Issues should be moved to the supervised enterprises. [passage indistinct]

Significant successes have been achieved in light industry, energy production, chemical and machine industry branches, and in certain firms of the electronics industry. This has contributed to the fact that the entirety of the industry which is supervised by the Ministry of Industry has developed significantly, has exceeded plans, and has outpaced the level of 1987, both in terms of the dynamics of development, hard currency export, and productivity. I think that in these areas the principle task of the ministry is to strengthen the operation of the firms and sub-branches which have moved in the right direction.

There is another area of tasks: The collection of acute issues where this movement has not taken place yet. Serious problems must be quickly solved within the Metallurgy, coalmining, and the chemical industry, in a way that would not harm the domestic supply, and these areas of production—in a smaller organization or in a more dispersed organization - should be again profitable and efficient. [passage omitted]

Nobody believes that spectacular results should be achieved overnight. The administration and the enterprises have been dealing with these areas—which, not quite properly, are called crisis branches. Well, in 1988, decisions relating to them must be made under any circumstances, preferably in the first half of the year because we cannot burden society with the huge losses accumulated here. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] In other words, your personal program is that all issues ripe for decision must be decided on. Is it your principle program?

[Berecz] Well it is the most urgent program awaiting us in the Ministry of Industry.

[Correspondent] In addition, you must be given the right to put together your own team which you trust. Have you got a team like that, or have you got any ideas?

[Berecz] I know almost every one of the leaders, state secretaries, deputy ministers, and department heads working in the Ministry of Industry; I have known some of them for years, others even for decades. I have no prejudice in my approach to the apparatus of the Ministry of Industry. I think that we will have to work together for about 3 months, then the possibilities of cooperation will formulate. Depending on that, I will want to adopt a stance as to whether personnel changes are necessary. I do not think that changes should occur primarily because a change has taken place at the head of the ministry. Owing to a change which has taken place in the organization and work style of the administration, the role of the Ministry of Industry too is changing and it stems from this changed role that staff level reductions and following from that personnel changes too will have to take place.

[Correspondent] Istvan Horvath has already been sworn in once as interior minister, for he served in this post between 1980-85. Still, we cannot say that he takes the same chair. The Interior Ministry has never just been a police ministry, and in the future it will be even more different. What is the essence of the changed law?

[Horvath] Let me say something first of all. The chair in which I sit again is the same. It has remained; I have inherited it from my predecessor who, as minister, was also my successor. But apart from that the truth is as has been heard just now. Today, as a result of changes in international circumstances as well as changed in our domestic relations, and as a consequence of the decision adopted by the last parliament session, which laid down a new order for the duties of the ministry, this ministry is not going to be the same as it has been until now. In Hungary, the Interior Ministry has for decades been the central administrative body of the police, the border

guards, and the fire service. However, as a result of the closing of the government's Council Affairs Office, a very wide area of administrative tasks relating to the central government has also been included in its competence.

[Correspondent] The issue here is the representation of the people, a state administration. I do not know whether the anxieties have been made known to you, to the effect that these tasks which have been placed in the area of competence of the Interior Ministry will curtail democracy?

[Horvath] These anxieties, by the way, could be heard at the time of the preparation of the decision and it was also voiced during the decision at the closed session of the parliament. Let me say that these doubts and anxieties cannot be considered as lacking bases. In Hungary, one—perhaps I can say more than one, even several generations—have grown up and have been familiar with the Ministry of the Interior on the basis of a past organizational scheme, and now it is open, both in the circle of experts—not so much in their circle but rather in the circle of our public opinion these thoughts exist, the thoughts which you refer to in your question [as heard]. It would have been more proper perhaps if we had spoken in greater detail about this affair even at the time of the preparation phase. However, it is still not too late and therefore it is still a justified question, which you just put now to dispel the unfounded anxieties and doubts.

The councils are the organs of people's representation, self-government, and state administration. As people's representation and self-government organs, the councils as bodies do not come under the supervision, control, or tutelage of any ministry. As people's representation and self-government institutions they belong in the area of competence of the Council of Ministers, the government, the Presidential Council, and the National Assembly. On the basis that as professional administrative apparatuses, whose duty it is to ensure the local execution of the decision of the administration and the central organs of the state, they do come under supervision.

[Correspondent] As deputy prime minister, you heard the arguments for a government organization and restructuring. Which are the most convincing ones for you among these?

[Horvath] I think the most important argument as a point of departure is that the recent years, perhaps even an entire decade or a little bit more, have provided us with enough arguments for the political leadership of the country to realize that the exercise of power cannot be successfully continued using the present tools and methods and with the present organizational forms, in a way which is efficient and which is acceptable to the people. If we want to act successfully and if we want to achieve better results, then we need to change our attitude, an attitude which is built on the idea that the state and the administration is omnipotent. There is a need for greater self control on behalf of the organization of the state from the viewpoint of its laying down the limits regarding the issues which it intends to regulate, and that it can ensure the implementation of these under any circumstances.

There was a need for this and it has become clear, and we have taken these steps toward structural changes within the government. There has been a significant decrease in the number of government committees and of the deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers. Both of these were organizational brakes against (?providing scope for) ministers working more independently and with greater responsibility, and for strong ministries alongside a strong prime minister—these too needed for good government.

[Correspondent] The organizational restructuring has not ended yet?

[Horvath] The organizational restructuring has not ended yet. These were steps, correct ones, and made in the right direction, but others are still needed. In addition to organizational changes our attitude and practices must also change in certain areas. This has already started in the relationship between the government, the administration, and the National Assembly. Change in the relationship between the government, the administration, regional organs of the state, self-government bodies, the councils, and the relationship between the government and the interest representation groups must also change. I mention last, although it is the most important one really: We must change the contact between the party, the leading organs of the party, and the government and the government bodies in order to maintain and strengthen a political direction whose center is the party in Hungary. At the same time however, the special independent role of the state and the administrative bodies should prevail more in what falls on their shoulders regarding the shaping of the fate of the country and the people; and it is, under any circumstances, more than just the pure transmission of party decisions into the language of the state.

Medgyessy Reply on National Budget Debate

LD171859 Budapest MTI in English
1643 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 17 (MTI)—As reported, the debate on the 1988 national economic budget ended at the winter session of parliament on Thursday. Peter Medgyessy, deputy prime minister, replied to the 19 contributions. He said that the government can be called to account for the intensity of its moves, but it is too early to ask for the results. The recently adopted government programme and the new tax system will exert influence only with the passing of months, if not years.

The administration is aware that it can find partners to tackling the unpleasant tasks only with a clear and open programme. To this end, it is to further improve the information of deputies. During the debate it was raised that the presented proposals provide no alternative. This can be explained by the government's narrowing scope of motion. Despite this fact, alternative proposals were tabled on some issues.

Several deputies proposed that in certain cases pensioners should be entitled to free services, including free medicine supply. Earlier the financial administration planned to make certain drugs free of charge and raise the fee paid for others, but as in aggregate this measure would have deteriorated the standard of living, the government came to an agreement with the trade unions and it will set forth another proposal to the parliament.

Peter Medgyessy underlined that the development of education is imperative. Despite the 4.2 per cent increase in the nominal value allocated by the 1988 central budget to education, due to inflation the real value of available resources is to decrease. This is why the administration has set up a 150-million-forint fund for higher education, and it is to assign 70 million forints for equipment purchases. Next year 800 new classrooms will be opened in primary, and 600 in secondary schools, together with 400 new apprentice workshops.

Peter Medgyessy said that for the time being the government can guarantee full compensation of inflation only for pensioners over 70. With regard to the modernization of the pension system and the housing policy, Peter Medgyessy said that plans are being elaborated and the proposals will be shortly presented to the National Assembly. On the new price and tax system, he said that according to calculations the non-rouble sales returns of companies will improve.

Medgyessy Interviewed on Finance Policy

LD192213 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 19 Dec 87

[From the "168 hours" program]

[Text] [Announcer] The new deputy premier heading the merged government committees is a finance specialist. He has become known through his frequent appearances in connection with an unpopular topic, tax reform. Peter Medgyessy is interviewed by Henrik Havas.

[Havas] The working out of the tax reform is connected with your name in the public consciousness. However, introducing it will not be your task. Will this not cause problems?

[Medgyessy] I am grateful to you for asking this question. After all, I am also familiar with people's views and have heard this idea expressed. I think that I am not freed, either morally or on the basis of my actual work, from having to deal with the financial system and the implementation of the tax system. I regard it as a moral duty to ensure that this financial system should work and eventually and bring results, while at the same time I am not freed from this task from another point of view either: There will be only one government committee in the future, and it will necessarily deal with these issues. Thus, I will have to go on dealing with these questions.

[Havas] By the way, what consideration led to the decision that the finance minister should be promoted and should deal with these questions as a deputy premier? In any case, what will be the essence of this function?

[Medgyessy] I think that a part must have been played in this decision by the fact that finances occupy a growing role in the economy; it is necessary for economic specialists to be given the opportunity to carry out their work, and I think it was on the basis of this consideration that I was chosen.

[Havas] Very many people have recently pointed out that the functions of the government is nothing more than implementation, that the decisions are not made at the government level but at the various forums of the party. To what extent will this change in the future?

[Medgyessy] During the time that I was finance minister, roughly a year, I did not get this impression. Naturally, the party determines the fundamental political line, including the basic direction of economic policy. I say naturally, because everywhere in the world, wherever there is a governing party, the government party determines the political line.

It is true that in the past period this link between the party and the government may have been closer, and today there is an intention and an endeavor for everyone to carry out his own work within his own sphere of authority. This is justified and correct also, by the way, because this is what provides the possibility for the party to call the government to account for what it is doing in a given case. After all, if the party is fully identified with all the steps taken by the government, if the party prescribes all the steps, then there is hardly any possibility fo calling the government to account afterwards.

[Havas] In the past, the finance minister often found himself in the strange position. For example at parliamentary committee sessions, or at press briefings, where he was called to account for matters which are decided in the production sphere. You have often said that the important thing is value-creating work, the finances are at their mercy. Many people say nowadays that the government policy, its practice, is based on restriction and not on new value-creating processes.

[Medgyessy] Naturally, the financial system is a mirror image which reflects what happens in the production sphere, what happens in the distribution system, in the

economy. As I said in my speech in the National Assembly, the government must undertake measures which do not contain only restrictions, but which facilitate resurgence as well. A whole series of measures in this spirit were brought in last year. We are operating a system of returning profits taxes in the case of the best enterprises; we have introduced various preferences, and expanded those which already existed, in the interest of technical-technological development; we have significantly expanded the scope of these for 1988; we have created conditions for a more flexible management of stocks. In other words, we have brought in measures which facilitated the creation of revenue, and I am convinced that the fact that the increase in the national income in 1987 will after all attain the level that we planned is, to a not inconsiderable extent, a consequence of this.

Unfortunately, in 1987 the greater problem was on the side of utlization. From the production point of view, very slow but positive steps have been taken.

New Tasks of National Price Office Explained

LD202254 Budapest MTI in English 1710 GMT 20 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 20 (MTI)—Under the decision of Parliament, the National Material and Price Office has been transformed into a National Price Office which is no longer engaged in market supervision and the marketing of capital equipment. State Secretary Bela Szikszay, president of the office, informed MTI about the changes and the new tasks.

Bela Szikszay said that the National Material and Price Office performed two fundamental functions: It was a price authority on the one hand, and marketed products and supervised the market on the other. After the establishment of the Ministry of Commerce it was justified to delegate the latter two tasks to the ministry. As the Ministry of Commerce is in charge of the domestic, socialist and convertible-accounting sales, it should have appropriate information and means for the operative supervision and coordination of the domestic market, and the elimination and prevention of market disturbances.

The National Price Office is to operate as a price authority. Its tasks have been expanded as its predecessor was only in charge of the industry. The National Price Office is to formulate the price policy and price mechanism, establish the price forms and control price trends in agriculture, transport and services as well.

There will be some organizational changes both in the office and the sectoral and regional organs. The work of, and relationship between, the central, sectoral and regional organs of price control should be established in harmony with the new tasks.

Finance Minister Discusses Budget

LD192255 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 19 Dec 87

[From the "168 hours" program]

[Text] [Announcer] At the end of this series of items connected with the National Assembly, let us return to financial issues. After all, next year's budget was one of the main topics of the winter session, during which the deputies asked many times and in various ways how far and in what ways the government would be able to keep inflation in check. Finance Minister Miklos Villanyi was interviewed by Tamas Forro.

[Forro] The budget deficit is around 35 billion this year; next year you are planning a 20 billion forint deficit. These are not times when it is gratifying to become finance minister.

[Villanyi] This is undoubtedly so. I believe I am not being envied. It will bring a lot of clashes. After all, while it is not my personal task alone, improving the equilibrium is our general economy policy goal, and part of this is to create the equilibrium of the budget and the balance of payments. [Forro] It is said more and more frequently that there is a danger of explosive inflation. Your Yugoslav counterpart began his career as finance minister a good 10 years ago by crossing out three zeros on the Yugoslav currency.

[Villanyi] I have nothing like this in mind. I think this is only a formal solution. I think the Yugoslav example also shows this. I think there are other, substantial tasks involved in the fight against inflation. I will seek not the administrative solutions first and foremost, but will endeavor to develop a system of incentives and financial regulations which will shape the real processes of the economy so as to reduce the rate of inflation.

I think, however, that certain price increases will be unavoidable later on as well, and if this is controlled and it expresses an economic rationality primarily—if if is the consequence of elimination of unjustified subsidies, for example—then this is something that must be accepted.

[Forro] According to certain economic analyses, there has never been an example in the world of a country getting back on its feet from an economic crisis such as this. Even the optimists tend to say that it might take 20 years for the economy to be put right. What is your opinion?

[Villanyi] To be honest, I am more optimistic. If I shared this view, I think I should not have accepted this post. Nor do I regard the diagnosis as so serious. This is not some sort of ex-officio optimism, which state officials are often accused of; this optimism comes first and foremost from the fact that in my judgment in the economy's productive spheres there are no small islands

where the possibilities of action and further development are present. I see scope for expanding these islands. I am convinced that at the other pole, at the enterprises and cooperatives where there is a long-term lack of financial equilibrium, where production produces losses, further rigor can be employed, together with the measures which have already been taken. These two factors in conjunction can carry with them the middle ground in the interest of improving our real equilibrium, which after a while will necessarily manifest itself in the balance of financial processes and value processes as well.

[Forro] I think that because of the closing down of factories, the financial reogranization of enterprises, and particularly because of the taxation, the Finance ministry will not be very popular in Hungary in the next few years.

[Villanyi] The interests of financial policy must be pursued with conviction. Popularity is a secondary matter. I will, however, endeavor to ensure that the Finance ministry is not criticized for what it does in the interest of the country. If we approach a question in a bureaucratic way, or if we are not consistent in applying certain principles, then we must accept the criticism of public opinion. But if someone accepts that the loss-making enterprises must be eliminated and that the sphere of loss-making enterprises must be reduced, then to criticize the implementation of the aim is unjustified. Because, unfortunately we often come across cases where these economic policy endeavors are approved, but when people come across the not inconsiderable negative consequences as well, they wash their hands of it. This is not a principled position.

Council of Ministers' Meeting Detailed

LD212212 Budapest MTI in English
2000 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 21 (MTI)—The Monday session of the Hungarian Council of Ministers discussed the financial and moral prestige of professionals starting work and of the technical intelligentsia. A resolution was passed on basic wage rises for beginners and increase incentives for technical professionals. Another decision concerned the increase of pensions and other annuities and social insurance measures towards better living conditions. The government proposed to increase the permissible number of employees in private trade.

After the session government spokesman Rezso Banyasz pointed out in 1988 the pension of people over the age of 70 and disability pensions should be raised by 15 per cent, but at least by 330 forints a month. The family allowance will be 400 forints higher per child, and the family allowance will be raised by a further 100 forints until the child turns three.

The spokesman announced the government's decision to raise, as of September 1, 1988, the initial salary of professionals starting work, in the measure originally envisaged for January 1991.

Next year a central wage regulation will be introduced for companies with a considerable technical workforce. The spokesman said that as currently the government is not in a position to vote substantial wage raises for any group of society, it is to be hoped companies will increase the salary of outstanding employees.

In future retailers can employ 30 people in restaurants, boarding houses and camp sites, and 20 in other categories of boarding houses, camp sites, and 20 in other categories of boarding houses, camp sites, small supermarkets and heating and building material shops.

On the international press reaction to the major domestic political events of recent months and weeks, the government spokesman said that all press organs of the socialist countries covered Hungary's economic and social conditions, the reform process and efforts to streamline the economy and expand services to the population. The Western bourgeois newspapers voted a measure of confidence for the announced reform measures and carried sympathetic reports on the new passport regulation scheduled for next year. Wide coverage was given to the session of the National Assembly, and the personnel changes were said to serve more effective governmental work.

Rezso Banyasz said the public feeling of society seems to be more pessimistic than justified by the real situation. "One cause is that our economy and economic management system still fail to work adequately and the pace of social modernization is also unsatisfactory." At the same time, the spokesman said people should not to be impatient, as the first six months have not offered sufficient time and opportunity for crucial changes. Yet, people sense that something new is on the way, and the programme of advance should be given its opportunity.

CSSR's Chnoupek Arrives for Talks 20 Dec

LD211536 Prague CTK in English
0700 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw Dec 21 (CTK)—New forms of economic cooperation and questions of coordinated foreign policy are on the agenda of talks between Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek and his Polish counterpart Marian Orzechowski which start here today.

Within his two-day official visit to Poland, the Czechoslovak minister is expected to sign with Marian Orzechowski a treaty on legal aid and regulation of legal relations which will replace a treaty signed in 1961.

During the visit, Bohuslav Chnoupek will be received by top Polish representatives.

The Czechoslovak minister arrived in Poland yesterday.

Czechoslovak-Polish cooperation in economy, trade, science and technology has been increasing on the basis of a long-term program of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two states until the year 2000, signed in 1986.

Poland is Czechoslovakia's third largest trade partner. In the 1986-1990 period, the volume of mutual trade should reach 12,300 million roubles which is 40 percent more than in the past five-year plan period.

A total of 75 percent of the mutual trade are machines and equipment, about 16 percent are raw and other materials.

Talks With Orzechowski, Others

LD212143 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1730 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Bohuslav Chnoupek, Czechoslovak foreign minister, arrived in Warsaw today for an official friendly visit to the PPR. Pavel Kopecky, our permanent correspondent in Warsaw, reports:

[Kopecky] Today, the first day of Minister Chnoupek's visit to Poland, was marked by talks with Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski and a meeting with other representatives of the political life of our neighbors to the north. The two foreign ministers discussed issues of cooperation which is developing well, especially economic cooperation, where we are achieving very good results. They talked about international problems and the coordination of the joint proceeding of our countries in tackling them. They agreed in emphasizing that the results of the recent Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Washington and the signing of the treaty on the eradication of medium- and short-range missiles in Europe are an important step toward nuclear disarmament. In this situation the Polish proposal to reduce armaments and increase confidence in central Europe is becoming more important, as is the initiative to create a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons on our continent, which was put forward jointly by Czechoslovakia and the GDR.

These issues were also discussed during a meeting between Comrade Bohuslav Chnoupek and Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski. The two representatives exchanged views on the issues of European security and cooperation, and agreed that the Soviet-U.S. summit created favorable conditions for the advancement of relations between the East and West.

During the afternoon the two foreign ministers signed a Czechoslovak-Polish treaty on legal aid in civil, family, labor, and penal cases. Bohuslav Chnoupek said in this connection that our fraternal states are linked by 125 bilateral agreements. The document signed today is very important because it guarantees the protection of rights and legal rights of citizens and organizations of the two countries in the conditions of rich and dynamically developing cooperation.

At the moment Comrade Chnoupek is meeting the Polish Premier Zbigniew Messner. Then a gala dinner will take place at which both foreign ministers will speak.

Received by Messner

LD212222 Warsaw PAP in English
2139 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 21—Premier Zbigniew Messner received on Monday Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek, now on an official visit to Poland.

The two assessed the whole of dynamically developing bilateral relations, the implementation of the multi-year programme of cooperation between Poland and Czechoslovakia till the year 2000 and selected international problems.

Positively assessing the development of economic cooperation, the sides noted that Czechoslovakia placed second, following the Soviet Union, as Poland's economic partner. Also discussed were problems related to contacts between both countries' citizens with particular regard to the realization of the convention on border traffic.

Received by Malinowski

LD212144 Prague CTK in English
1856 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw Dec 21 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek met here today with Marshal of the Polish Sejm Roman Malinowski.

They exchanged views on the questions of European security and cooperation, pointing out that the successful results of the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and

Ronald Reagan in Washington and the treaty on the liquidation of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles make favourable conditions for the development of East-West relations.

Roman Malinowski informed Bohuslav Choupek of the Sejm's proposal to convene to Warsaw a meeting of chairmen of the parliaments of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe signatory countries. This initiative has met with favourable response and a number of the chairmen has promised to participate in the meeting.

Bohuslav Chnoupek assured Roman Malinowski that Czechoslovakia welcomes and fully supports this proposal.

Orzechowski Hosts Dinner

LD212228 Prague CTK in English
2052 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw Dec 21 [CTK correspondent]—Poland and Czechoslovakia are important members of the socialist community, Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski said today at a banquet he was giving for his visiting Czechoslovak counterpart Bohuslav Chnoupek.

The two countries' membership of the Warsaw Treaty, their active participation in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and joint lasting alliance with the Soviet Union are guarantees of their security and at the same time of the acceleration of their development.

The Polish minister noted that this month's meeting between CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan was a historic step ahead in the effort to remove the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war. The Soviet-U.S. treaty scrapping intermediate range nuclear missiles gives a chance of more progress in disarmament talks.

Poland highly appreciates and supports the initiative of Czechoslovakia and the GDR aimed at creating a nuclear-free corridor and a chemical-free zone in central Europe. Both states agree that inviolability of borders, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity are necessary prerequisites of strengthening peace and cooperation in Europe, Marian Orzechowski stated and expressed support for the Soviet peace initiatives.

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek stressed that the Czechoslovak people, together with the nations of the world, welcomed the historic Soviet-U.S. treaty as a victory of reason and political responsibility.

We fully supported the Soviet action in the talks with the United States because this immediately concerns also our security and the interests of our country, the Czechoslovak minister declared.

He pointed out that new political thinking has a favourable influence on relations between the socialist countries and on activities of the Warsaw Treaty. The basic defence concept of the alliance's military doctrine, based on the principle of "reasonable sufficiency" of armed forces at the lowest possible level, has been specified.

We attach extraordinary importance to qualitatively new forms of cooperation in CMEA, Bohuslav Chnoupek added.

He noted that Czechoslovakia and Poland work for central Europe to become an area of peaceful coexistence. This is why we resolutely condemn the surviving manifestations of revanchism, the minister stressed. At all international forums we fully support the plan presented by Wojciech Jaruzelski, which provides for the removal of tactical nuclear weapons and cuts in conventional armament in this area. We are also jointly pushing through the proposal to create a zone without chemical weapons and a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe, submitted by Czechoslovakia and the GDR, Bohuslav Chnoupek stated.

PRON on INF Treaty, Jaruzelski Plan

LD212217 Warsaw PAP in English
1905 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 21—Presidium of the Executive Committee of the National Council of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PRON) today received with recognition the fact of signing the Soviet-U.S. treaty on liquidation of medium and shorter-range missiles. The treaty is an achievement of the peace policy of the socialist states, among which Poland frequently came out with its own disarmament initiatives.

In the present situation special significance is acquired by the Jaruzelski plan to reduce armaments and increase confidence in central Europe, which was forwarded at the 2nd PRON Congress. Its implementation should and can be another step towards building world peace.

The Presidium discussed tasks of the movement ensuring from the present social, political, and economic situation of this country. The PRON sees its role particularly in the field of a consistent development of democracy, a successful introduction of the economic reform, a better meeting of the needs and aspirations of Polish society.

The Presidium supported an initiative tabled by representatives of the Presidium of an ecological social movement to set up a national foundation for environment protection. The PRON National Council Presidium decided to ask a group of deputies at the nearest Sejm meeting to initiate proceedings leading to the lifting of the law of May 10 1985, on special penal accountability.

Joint Enterprise With USSR Set for Jan 1988

LD172146 Warsaw PAP in English
2033 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 16—Polish-Soviet trade next year against this year's figures and the agreement on the first Polish-Soviet joint enterprise based on Krakow's "Pollena-Miraculum" cosmetics factory were the topic of a press conference given on Wednesday in the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations by the government commissioner for cooperation and joint enterprises.

This year, trade turnover with the USSR is estimated to amount to 12.8 billion roubles, including exports and imports of 6.4 billion roubles each, which means that the planned targets will not be reached, as the planned commodity turnover was to amount to 13.3 billion roubles, with the surplus of Polish exports worth 300 million roubles. The main reason for this is too low a number of Soviet orders for Polish machine and plant resulting from the scarcity of the Polish offer.

The protocol for next year envisages the trade turnover of (?13) billion 745 million roubles, including Polish exports to be slightly over 7.1 billion and imports worth 6.6 billion roubles.

Stefan Jucha, the manager of the "Pollena-Miraculum" factory, which is to be transformed into a joint Polish-Soviet enterprise as of January 1, 1988, said that the intention behind the venture was to find a partner ready to finance the completion of an investment project, mothballed in 1981, aimed to modernize, increase and diversify production.

The Soviet partners, on the other hand, do not have to build a new factory from the beginning and will get good products, already tested on the Soviet market, from the joint enterprise, whereas while building a new factory in the USSR, they would have no guarantees of high quality of products because of lack of experience and proper know-how.

It has been agreed that the joint enterprise fund will total 10 billion 750 million zlotys, the Soviet partner bringing in 40 per cent and the Polish one 60 per cent, including the existing fixed assets and technologies.

When the planned production capacity is reached in 1992 the "miraculum" production value will total (in last year's prices) 11.5 billion zlotys (4 billion zlotys this year). The value of exports to the USSR is to amount to 70.5 million roubles, these exports growing six times against their current figures.

Trade Protocol for 1988 Signed With GDR

LD172346 Warsaw PAP in English
1952 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 17—A 1988 protocol on mutual supplies of goods and services was signed here today between the Polish and GDR Governments.

The protocol provides for turnover of some 2.4 billion roubles, that is by 9 per cent more than envisaged by long-term plans and by nearly 8 per cent more than this year.

The protocol envisages the surplus of commodity imports over exports meant to compensate for transit services rendered for the GDR in Poland. A portion of Polish exports is designed for financing tourist traffic to the GDR.

Some 70 percent of Poland's turnover with the GDR is composed of machine and plant, Polish exports including also specialist building-assembly services provided by some 18,000 specialists employed under official contracts.

The protocol was signed, on the Polish side, by Commissioner of the Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Helmut Floeth, and on the GDR side—by Foreign Trade Vice Minister Dietrich Lemke.

The GDR official was received by Poland's Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Wladyslaw Gwiazda. The sides noted with satisfaction the high level of commodity turnover between both countries and good prospects for economic cooperation in the coming years.

Sejm Speaker Pays Official Visit to Austria

Meets Vranitzky, Waldheim

LD172307 Warsaw PAP in English
2250 GMT 16 Dec 87

[By PAP correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, Dec. 16—During the second day of his official visit to Austria Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski met with Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky. During the meeting the two men discussed current problems of Polish-Austrian cooperation and the international situation.

Roman Malinowski informed his host about Poland's proposal of holding a meeting of the heads of parliaments of the CSCE countries in Warsaw and about the process of radical reforms and democratization of social and political life which is currently being realized in Poland.

After the meeting Chancellor Varnitzky told newsmen that the Polish proposal signifies a stimulation and further democratization of contacts between parliamentarians.

Full support for this proposal was also expressed by Austria's President Kurt Waldheim during a talk with Roman Malinowski.

Next, the whole Polish delegation met with Leopold Gratz in the Austrian Parliament. Roman Malinowski drew attention to the systematic development of Polish-Austrian contacts in various areas and presented the main ideas of the Polish proposition on the Warsaw meeting of heads of the CSCE countries' parliaments. He also informed his host about the positive international response to this proposal.

Sejm Speaker Malinowski also informed his host at length about the Polish initiative known as the "Jaruzelski plan."

Leopold Gratz expressed his total support for the meeting of the heads of parliaments in Warsaw and pledged his cooperation in the preparation of this meeting. He also stressed his full support for the "Jaruzelski plan" drawing attention to the fact that it is exceptionally relevant in the light of the significance of talks on conventional disarmament. Both men expressed their satisfaction over the results of the recent summit in Washington.

Roman Malinowski invited Leopold Gratz to pay an official visit to Poland in 1988.

Furthermore, Roman Malinowski met with vice-chancellor and minister of foreign affairs Alois Mock who also expressed his support for the Polish initiative. Alois Mock also drew attention to the importance which his country attaches to the positive conclusion of the CSCE meeting's work.

Moreover, Roman Malinowski mentioned the contacts between the United Peasants' Party, of which he is chairman, and the Austrian People's Party which is headed by Alois Mock.

Meets Parliamentarians

LD180607 Warsaw PAP in English
2135 GMT 18 Dec 87

[By PAP Correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, Dec. 17—During the third day of his official visit to Austria Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski held plenary talks in the Austrian Parliament and talks with the president of Vienna's Landtag Fritz Hoffmann.

Malinowski was received by chairman of the lower chamber's Foreign Affairs Commission Peter Jankowitsch.

During a meeting with deputies to the lower chamber and members of the upper chamber of the Austrian Parliament Roman Malinowski spoke about the assumptions behind the meeting of the heads of the parliaments of the CSCE signatories, planned for next year in Warsaw.

In an interview for PAP Malinowski said, among other things: "I am very satisfied with the course of all the talks. We spoke about our parliaments' will of making a contribution to the realization of the resolutions adopted during Chancellor Vranitzky's September visit to Poland. We voiced our satisfaction over the speedy progress in the area of the agreement on the security of capital which may create conditions for modern and effective forms of cooperation. The talks which are being conducted on an agreement pertaining to the protection of the natural enviroment must also be rated positively.

"Polish and Austrian societies welcome with satisfaction the return to visa-free tourist movement as of Jan. 1, 1988."

Roman Malinowski stressed the joint actions and very active cooperation in the field of foreign policy. "We referred to Poland and Austria's joint initiative on the CSCE forum on the organization of a symposiumn in Kracow on the preservation of Europe's cultural heritage," he said.

"Our hosts frequently stressed the growing importance of the Jaruzelski plan in the light of the need of conducting work on the reduction of the thresholds of conventional armaments and assuring security in Europe. It was stressed that the Jaruzelski plan meets the desired processes in this field half-way," Malinowski concluded.

No Price Increases Foreseen Until Year's End

LD202132 Warsaw PAP in English
1900 GMT 20 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 20—Franciszek Stepniak, director of the Department of Costs and Prices of Consumer Products at the Finance Ministry told PAP journalist (excerpts);

There will be no rises of retail official prices till the end of this year or in January 1988. As we know, the referendum resulted in the departure from the radical concept of the price and income policy. This has its own consequences and they concern, among other things, the scope of subsidies which must be higher that it was planned earlier.

The modification in this field significantly influences the draft budget of the state. The first reading of the draft budget in Parliament is expected to take place at the end of this December while next January is to bring the second reading.

Concrete decisions on prices depend on the shape of the budget law. Therefore, they will be made after the law is adopted by the Sejm. Thus we do not plan any ruses of official prices of goods and services at the turn of this year and next.

It is worth mentioning that those prices are applied to a half of goods sold in the retail consumer market (according to the value of sales) and above all to basic foodstuffs and energy carriers.

The original plans concerning decreasing the state's interference in the shaping of contractual prices must be modified, too. It is necessary to make it impossible or highly difficult for industrial enterprises to raise their contractual prices of these articles which are of significance for the costs of living.

The upholding of administrative interference is a response to society's expectation of greater stability of prices. This interference will concern neither all the articles nor all the producers. Our approach will be differentiated.

By maintaining forms of interference in contractual prices we choose the lesser evil. In step with the balancing of the market through higher supply we will give up interference into the contractual prices of many articles. The requirement to base the economy on the market mechanisms remains topical. We treat the interference into contractual prices as a temporary measure and we will decrease its scope with the improvement of the situation on the market.

State Council on Referendum: 'Majority Support'

AU220829 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 19-20 Dec 87 p 9

[Excerpts] PAP—On 18 December, there was a meeting of the State Council in the Belvedere Palace. [passage omitted]

The State Council analyzed the course and outcome of the national referendum. It said that the referendum had been conducted efficiently, with full respect for the appropriate legal regulations. All the preparations laid down in the "calendar of duties" adopted by the State Council had been made in good time. The Central Referendum Commission, voivodship referendum commissions, primary-level referendum commissions, and district referendum commissions all discharged their duties faithfully. Almost 226,000 citizens were employed in these social commissions. [passage omitted]

An analysis of the referendum results illustrates a large degree of political energy in society. The firm majority of voters supported the program of accelerated economic reform and further democratization of social life. This support is a great value, and at the same time a form of social pressure on all state authorities and administrative bodies to carefully prepare and effectively implement the economic and social reforms. The State Council said that the referendum results call for a further animation of the work of people's councils. [passage omitted]

The referendum result in relation to the second question illustrates society's need for more effective action by all the representative, administrative, and self-government bodies encompassed by the process of democratization. The point is that democratization should be accompanied by efficient functioning, that personal responsibility for implementing the reform should not be blurred, and that democratization should not act as a cloak for distortions like favoritism and cliquishness. The referendum result illustrates the need for a further democratization of the electoral law and an amendment to the law on people's councils and territorial self-government bodies, in order to increase these bodies' financial-economic independence and their powers and possibilities of broad action. It was decided to step up the work in this sphere. The State Council also considered it particularly important to include in the Constitution the political, social, and economic changes that have already been made and those that are foreseen in the reform program. [passage omitted]

The State Council resolved to create the following new cities as of 1 January 1988: Brusy, in Bydgoszcz Voivodship; Jozefow, in Zamosc Voivodship; Nowogrod Bobrzanski, in Zielona Gora Voivodship; and Ozarow, in Tarnobrzeg Voivodship. The rural districts of Rataje and Gostynia in Plock Voivodship have been combined. [passage omitted]

The State Council appointed the following new ambassadors: Mieczyslaw Biernacki, as PPR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotiary to the Republic of Colombia; and Antoni Pierzchala, as PPR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to New Zealand, which function A. Pierzchala will perform alongside that of PPR ambassador to the Commonwealth of Australia.

Three judges were appointed to the Supreme Administrative Court, 12 to Voivodship Courts, and 70 to Regional Courts. Twenty persons were granted Polish citizenship.

Further on PZPR CC Plenum Speeches

Wozniak 15 Dec Address

AU211044 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 16 Dec 87 pp 4, 5

["Text" of speech by Marian Wozniak, Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, at the 15 December Warsaw Sixth Central Committee Plenum: "Review and Modernization of Organizational Structures of Economy and State Are Part and Parcel of Reform Program"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades, the review and modernization of the organizational structures in all areas of the economy and the state are very important features of the process of changing the logic of the functioning of our social system. This process was sponsored by the ninth

party congress. The review and modernization are necessary because organizational structures tell us who makes decisions and bears responsibilities in society for reaching appointed goals. These structures are responsible for the organization of collective activities and determine social and economic progress as well as organizational order throughout the state and in its smallest echelons.

The reform of our organizational structures in line with the 10th congress resolution is unprecedented and has no model to follow. The review of structures is continuing in such different areas as administration, the economy, services, education, health protection, science, culture, foreign service, subsidized social organizations, and the party apparatus. The variety is so great that uniform solutions are impossible, although solutions should constitute a cohesive whole. That is why the commission's task is difficult. But the review is continuing on this an extensive scale, even though progress varies in individual areas. Let me discuss this issue as much as the time allows.

In most cases our analytical and theoretical work has been replaced by practical activities.

The review's main goal is to stimulate organic transformations, beginning with elementary structures of the citizen's work and environment through higher levels of management. These changes can be carried out only if higher levels agree to submit to changes. Not much will be changed at the lowest levels in enterprises if their managements are unwilling to reform their own functions and structures. The functioning of the various individual levels of the state's organization is strongly integrated so that grassroots changes cannot exist for long without changes at the top, and vice versa.

The importance of transforming the government's functioning for the economic reform has been stressed many times, but this fact is also of considerable importance for changing the structures of the entire economic setup.

As the premier said, the crux of the changes in government is departure from managing individual units in favor of managing economic processes in the country. This is the first such change in our postwar history.

Although the changes carried out last October are thorough and comprehensive, the process by which the center plays its new role will take time and will have to be coordinated with the successive stages of changing economic mechanisms and structures.

The new center should exert pressure on the other structures of management, help to modernize them, simplify and eliminate above all the superfluous echelons, and be the driving force of the reform.

Experience has shown us that efforts to change structures should go hand in hand with efforts to change the system of management. This helps us avoid previous situations in which the implementation of new economic and legal solutions was attempted with the unchanged old organizational structures, which were not ready for these solutions.

Joint work and close cooperation between the Economic Reform Commission and the Party-Government Commission for Reviewing and Modernizing Organizational Structures of the Economy and the State have greatly facilitated the formulation of the "Reform Theses" and of "The Executive Program for The Second Stage of the Economic Reform" and have increased these measures' chances of success.

Comrades, the basic goals of the review include efforts to improve management and organizational structures and to rationalize employment within economic units.

We have begun this process on the strength of the resolution adopted by the Council of Ministers in March 1986.

During preparatory work we have noted shortcomings in the activities of some ministers and delays in initial reviews and in transmitting methodological instructions to enterprises. There was too much red tape in the job certification procedures in the initial period, and the certification of nonworker jobs was not carried out. These shortcomings and omissions have now been rectified.

We also know why the economic-fiscal system has its weaknesses and loopholes, which induce people to take the easy way out of their problems such as raising prices or applying for reliefs and subsidies. These so-called easy ways of achieving results through exploiting pro-effective mechanisms of the second stage of the economic reforms should be blocked with increasing efficiency. The Politburo report to this plenum criticized the job certification in enterprises. In some cases they failed to take the necessary action or engaged in sham activities, although, as daily practice and research demonstrate, management standards in our enterprises are low, unfortunately.

That is why we have asked the voivodship review commissions to make the great effort of checking on the job certification in 400 enterprises, which planned it for this year. The findings to date are that job certification is behind schedule and that it will be impossible to certify about 27 percent of jobs as planned by ministerial programs for this year.

Certification progress in individual enterprises also varies from case to case. In 6 percent of the 250 enterprises already checked no certification at all was started and in 30 percent of them nonworker jobs were completely ignored.

Almost 50 percent of enterprises do not analyze their own organizational structures and management systems. Enterprises in which checks were made eliminated merely 2,000 jobs, which is less than 1 percent of all the workers they employ.

The review activities are slow, and that is why only a few enterprises will be able to complete their reviews this year. We declare that such a job certification cannot produce the expected results.

The fact that enterprises are unable to improve their internal organization shows that they are not ready for the rigors of the second stage of economic reform and that they may expose their workers to painful results of bad efficiency. Wages also continue to be paid to workers whose contribution to overall production is none or very small. Workers self-management bodies and the entire work forces should have a clear understanding of this phenomenon and should combat it in their own interest and in the interest of society. If drones and superfluous workers are not removed, enterprises will reap no benefits, but best workers will start leaving, not because they want to go to private enterprises, but because work organization in their parent enterprises is bad and therefore wages are low.

The excessive expansion of the administrative apparatus in economic units often results from bad habits of organization, defective structures, the incorrect division of powers, and statistical-analytical bureaucracy. Shortcomings also result from obsolete regulations governing various functions of enterprises and from the system of economic accountability and records ordered from above. The commission's proposals to simplify the system of economic records have been included in the schedule for the second stage of economic reform. This will help reduce the labor-consuming paper work imposed on enterprises, which have long expected such reduction. In addition, changes in economic structures and the elimination of intermediate echelons will help reduce the mandatory accountability and statistical reports next year. Decisions in this connection, which involve reductions in the volume of accountability reports in ministries and in the Central Statistical Office, will be ready by the end of March 1988.

At present the party's attention should be focused on discovering and eliminating reasons for insufficient progress in job certification. These subjective reasons are rooted in psychology and influence the attitudes of the cadre and various groups of workers in enterprises vis-a-vis job certification. People are afraid of this certification, especially people at the medium and lower levels of employment. They are afraid of stresses and of the documented disclosures of organizational defects and bad safety and hygiene arrangements.

In our work so far we have stressed above all the technical-organizational arrangements for job certification, neglecting the social and educational side of it. We must remedy this shortcoming.

We must be responsible in solving human problems in the course of job certification because it concerns the most valuable factor in production. In this connection we must use the available fiscal and organizational resources to ensure that re-employment and reclassification of cadres provides conditions for the development of man and the economy. It is precisely in enterprises that the restructuring of our economy, which is expected to ensure our faster development, begins.

Many examples confirm the usefulness and effectiveness of the reviews and certification of jobs in improving organization. As a rule, this applies to the economic units in which the process of job certification has been combined with analyses of organizational structures and with improvements in economic records, information, and decision procedures, in which internal economic accounting has been developed, and into which opportunities for team work have been introduced. Many enterprises have treated job certification in this way. They include the Stalowa Huta metallurgical combine, the Kalisz transportation equipment plant, the Gostynin POLAM plant, the Zyrardow flax plant, the Kutno MIFLEX radio components plant, and the Radom Radoskor leather plant. The acuteness of these problems becomes obvious when we read the Polish National Bank's report that 674 economic units have lost loan credibility.

We want to introduce the principle that the enterprise programs for repairing the economy that do not include the task of carrying out job certification should be rejected.

It is very important for everyone to realize that effective job certification can produce clearcut measures to streamline production processes—to mechanize production, to rely on computers, and to expand scientific-technological progress.

It is above all enterprises that determine production results at the present stage of job certification and the review of structures.

The job certification process facilitates to evaluate the managing cadres and to ensure that the right cadres are recommended for posts. Party recommendations should be given only to those persons who are able to cope with the tasks of the present stage and to ensure that the management structures are streamlined and simplified, that employment is rationalized, that those who cry that they are in work up to their necks, when in fact they do nothing, are unveiled and removed, and that the organizational defects of production and nonproduction jobs are eliminated.

In this regard, the party organizations in enterprises have a historic opportunity to become the chief factor that can inspire activities to ensure a high degree of rationality and modernity of their enterprises and thus to help create better wage conditions for their fellow workers.

As a party, we continue to make our position credible in the eyes of our people by displaying our determination and resolve to realize our reforms.

However, it is impossible to reform the state without reforming the enterprise. No one will deputize for us in doing this. Nor are we alone in this task. After all, many plant managements and self-management bodies continue to act effectively. We have trade union organizations, and our young people are also active. We should also see the role of the enterprise branches of the Chief Technical Organization, the Polish Economic Society, the Scientific Society of Organization and Administration, and the Bookkeepers Association. Party organizations should control and evaluate the state of preparatory work in connection with job certification and ensure that the first results of this certification produce encouraging facts for enterprise workers such as higher wages and the proper employment of their superfluous fellow workers.

Ministries, which play the role of the founding bodies of enterprises and which discharge new functions in the new structure of the Council of Ministers, must not regard job certification as a secondary matter. This also applies to the local administration, which has been given much greater opportunities to influence the economic development of voivodships, townships, and gminas.

The next year should prove to be a momentous year, because progress in enterprises is a condition for implementing the socioeconomic development tasks stemming from the 10th party congress.

Comrades, the issue of the organization of the economy is one of the more difficult structural tasks that attract public opinion. In the past years we have been without a really soundly worked out concept for the development of the organizational structures of the economy in line with the modern conditions. What is more, some people have even made it difficult to work out such a concept and to continue a meaningful dialogue in this connection.

The Party-Government Commission for Reviewing and Modernizing Organizational Structures of the Economy and the State has tackled this task as one of the primary and most urgent tasks. A document stating the principles in line with which the Polish economy's structures should be developed has been created with the help of expert advice from various scientific communities and practitioners, and with the help of the extensive materials produced by the reviews of the organizational structures of all the sectors and branches of our economy. In addition, we have taken into consideration the structural trends in other countries, and the present and past situation of the Polish economy. This document has been published and has been included in the theses for the second stage of the economic reform. After its correctness has been ascertained, it has been incorporated into the executive program of the second stage of the economic reform.

In line with this document, the government, party organizations in enterprises, and the entities that have the right and means to sponsor founding initiatives face the task to create within 3 years a new independent structure of economic activities that differ in accordance with the size of individual enterprises, that have different legal aspects, that are flexible vis-a-vis the domestic and international markets, and that have the necessary economic and capital connections.

Shaping such a structure requires the following simultaneous actions:

—Establishing an expansive network of small, flexible enterprises with a simple internal organization, and encouraging applications for new enterprises;

—Removing the obstacles to competition on the domestic market, especially as far as industrial goods are concerned;

—Combining the resources of enterprises, regardless of the form of their ownership;

—Creating the legal basis for concerns, especially in capital-intensive branches of the economy, under the auspices of an antimonopoly body.

The first results are already visible. Small cooperatives and workshops are being established, and 1,000 applications to establish new enterprises have been made. Preparations are being made to combat monopolies on the basis of a law which will come into force on 1 January 1988. The emergence of joint and mixed enterprises based on the trade law is already visible.

However, the Commission is of the opinion that links between enterprises are developing too slowly. There is a tendency to continue to administratively integrate economic units which would perform much more efficiently as independent enterprises. There are sporadic bold moves to dissolve inefficient pseudo-combines such as the Voivodship Water and Drain Enterprise in Walbrzych, but the rarity of such moves illustrates a lack of enterprise and fear of independent activity without some protective parasol or screen.

On the other hand, there is a small number of important capital-intensive areas of the economy where there can be no question of satisfying the requirements of international markets and accelerating the country's development without support from the state budget, capital resources, and permanent bonds of cooperation between enterprises.

This applies to spheres such as electronics, the pharmaceutical industry, iron and steel production, cement, synthetic fertilizers, and the cellulose-paper industry.

Because of a lack of joint capital investments by electronics enterprises and consumers of electronic products, there has been a setback with supplies of electronic components, despite tax concessions and the measures permitted by the government resolution on electronics. That is why the Commission has supported the creation of a capital company which will concentrate on these components. It is called "Elpol," and was created in the beginning of December. Two further capital companies in the sphere of electronics have been formed, and a similar one in the cement industry is being developed, whereby we respect the legal personality of independent enterprises. We regard these developments as a preliminary preparation for the law on unions of enterprises, called for in the program of implementing the second stage of the economic reform.

The turnover of supplies is also important for an efficient functioning of the economy. A review of this sphere has revealed a series of structural faults that cause supply bottlenecks, voluntaristic behavior, and a long list of frozen economic reserves. It has also revealed the existence of unnecessary agents in the handling of supplies. The conclusions stemming from this review have been included in the program of implementing the second stage of the reform. Work has also commenced on eliminating or restructuring 38 enterprises involved in this turnover and on perfecting the system of profit margins and commissions involved in the turnover of production resources.

One important conclusion has been implemented. The minister of the domestic market has assumed supervision over all key organizations and units involved in the turnover of supplies, excluding them from the production sphere. New rules for setting profit margins and commissions will be in force next year. This will bring down the costs of turnover and eliminate superfluous agencies involved in it.

Comrades! Economic progress will depend to a major extent on adequate support for the development of enterprises by the national research base and its technological innovations. Social development and that of culture also depend on it. Just as in all other spheres, here too a review of the functioning of all units is required.

Explanatory guidelines and material will be prepared by the end of the year by the Council of Ministers' Committee of Scientific-Technological Development, the Ministry of National Education, and the Presidium of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The review will be completed in 1988. It should result in the kinds of proposals concerning the organization of scientific institutions and their connections with the economy, culture, and social development that permit a gearing up of creative potential and material resources to spheres of major importance for the future. Altering the organizational structures of the economy and state requires a modernization of the system of control. The PZPR Central Committee team dealing with systems of state control, and appointed in December 1986, has worked out "paths of changes to the system of control in the economy and state and on coordination of this control," which were adopted by the Central Committee and Politburo in March this year. These proposals take into consideration the need to increase the control functions of the Sejm and people's councils on the one hand, and adapt the structure and organization of control bodies to the new system of powers and responsibilities in the economy on the other.

The main purpose of these changes is to make controls more effective by making sure that they are conducted in a professional way and that instead of merely recording negative facts they investigate the reasons behind them. At the same time, the number of controls can be reduced.

It is necessary to increase internal controls, especially by heads of department at all levels, and restrict outside interference in the economic affairs of units.

The criteria involved in assessing economic units will change, whereby greater emphasis will be laid on economic fault-finding. This will mean less frequent controls and less powers to carry them out. The powers of control bodies and the rules governing their cooperation will be set out in precise terms.

Esteemed comrades! Cooperatives occupy an important place in the Polish economy and sphere of social services. It is generally felt that the progress in structural changes to cooperatives brought on by the passing of the new law on cooperatives in 1982 has been halted in recent years. This is not only because of conservative views by some members of cooperatives. The reasons for this halt are also embedded in the institutional framework surrounding cooperatives. The October 1987 amendment to the law on cooperatives has encouraged a review of cooperatives.

The Commission believes that the structures of cooperatives must be altered by the members themselves, for the imposition of administrative steps, even if highly justified ones, would violate the very nature of a cooperative. On the other hand, this does not mean that cooperatives are not subject to the decisions of the antimonopoly office, because the entire economy is subject to them, regardless of the form of ownership.

A review of the organizational structures of individual units and their internal mechanisms is currently being undertaken by a special party-government team, in cooperation with the cooperatives.

Analyses and the views of cooperatives show that the coordinating and control functions of voivodship-level control bodies are superfluous. Such bodies will either be eliminated or turned into economic bodies. In the future, the area covered by cooperatives will no longer have to correspond to the country's division into voivodships.

The process of structural changes in cooperatives has already started. A new structure for the Central Union of Consumer Cooperatives "Spolem" has been worked out. Similar new structures exist for the Central Union of Gardeners and Bee-Keepers and Central Union of Work Cooperatives, as well as others. These should be carefully examined during congresses of cooperatives.

The Commission's review of the legal instruments governing cooperatives that clash with the amended law on cooperatives will be completed by the end of the year. We will encourage undertakings that strengthen the bonds between cooperative members and the cooperative they belong to.

Comrades! The sphere of public services is an area of special concern by the Party-Government Commission because it affects the social climate and people's attitudes toward the authorities. Apart from that, it determines social progress under socialism. This is a very neglected sphere, and the actual standard of services is far below society's expectations and needs. This is mainly because of an insufficiently developed technical base and a shortage of cadres, and a lot of time is necessary to remove these shortcomings. It is easier to remove the shortcomings caused by bad organization and improper attitudes toward customers. In its work, the Commission has adopted two basic paths of action. The first involves encouraging organizational improvements that do not call for any extra outlay, and the second one involves planning long-term changes to organization and systems of finance, all of which should lead to the elimination of the unsatisfactory standard of service. First of all, steady but still unnoticeable small changes are being made to the immediate surroundings of customers. None of these changes constitutes a breakthrough in itself, but they have to be made so that their cumulative effect may bring a new quality to life later on.

Some voivodships have solved the problem of shop operating hours on work-free Saturdays, the problem of 24-hour services to repair breakdowns in communal installations, and so on. A register of such improvements already contains 700 similar ideas that are being practised in all voivodships.

Improving services to the rural population is a matter that attracts a great deal of attention. Thus, a review aimed at improving the following will be completed: the transfer of farms, measurement and exchange of plots of land, granting of land on which to build, distribution of building resources and materials, registration of economic activity, transportation, and other matters.

As we know, a tangle of legal regulations and the lengthy procedure involved in changing them is preventing improvements in serving the public. That is why apart from changes to legal rules, we have also decided to introduce experimental solutions which will accelerate these changes in 1988.

In the process of political-systemic and economic changes, a particular role is played by undertakings designed to consolidate people's councils and the economic functions of territorial self-government bodies. Therefore we attach strategic importance to adequate material resources for cities and rural areas so that they can give primary-level people's councils full decision making and financial independence concerning local problems.

The work in this sphere will be performed in two stages, on the threshold of 1988 and 1989. The potential of local economies will be increased by transferring to primary-level people's councils some of the enterprises which are already under the control of voivodship people's councils or will come under their control during the reorganization of the center of administration. Economic potential should also rise as a result of the creation, by the people's councils, of new small-scale production enterprises in the state sector, and by their support for cooperative and private economic units.

As far as the finances of territorial self-government bodies are concerned, there must be a firm adherence to the principle whereby expenditures are balanced out by these bodies' own incomes and rational economic management is awarded. For this purpose, there extra budgetary funds will be guaranteed.

The second phase of changes involves putting communal property in a separate category and introducing territorial self-government to the sphere of civil law. The people's councils will be able to appear as legal persons. Following this, it will be possible to create unions of adjoining territorial units, and people's councils will be able to obtain loans for their own economic undertakings.

Comrades, a constitutional right to health care has become one of the cornerstones of Poland's sociopolitical order. The incongruity of a policy of increasing access to centers providing medical services, on the one hand, and neglect of facilities and equipment and shortcomings in the organization of the health service, on the other hand, has elicited criticism from the public with respect to the quality of medical attention.

Thus, we will strive to create conditions that stimulate an improvement in the range and quality of services and rational use of technical equipment. It is planned that health service units will become administratively independent. Funds from the state budget will be paid to those units for the medical services performed. In addition, it is proposed to reorganize the system for financing

the health. Apart from state budget funding, it is envisaged that resources obtained from the Social Security Agency and enterprises, depending on the extent to which they pose a health hazard, will be allocated for preventative measures. There will be a basic increase in the role of people's councils in the administration of the health service. Changes in the functioning of the health service, greater efficiency, and better use of existing potential will create conditions for a clear improvement in the health service's material position and status. The draft program for the reform of the health service is currently being discussed by various groups of experts. There are plans to publish the program at the beginning of 1988 so that suggestions stemming from public discussion can be added to it. This is because it will concern solutions to a problem that is of interest to all society and not just the health service community.

The reorganization of Poland's cultural life, which will emerge from the implementation of the second stage of the economic reform and the democratization of public life, envisages changes at all levels of the organizational structures of institutions in this field.

It is envisaged that central institutions responsible for culture will be reorganized with a view to limiting the ministry's administrative and supervisory functions with regard to cultural institutions that come under its purview directly or indirectly. The emphasis should be shifted to the ministry's promotional and coordinating activities that encourage the creation of a cultural policy for the entire state and the preservation of artistic creativity. Improvements in economic and legal systems within the framework of the cultural development fund are also envisaged.

At the same time, essential changes ought to be made to current taxation and pay systems as well as to fee systems and various legal and financial restrictions and limitations. The new measures will be geared toward increasing the independence of individual cultural institutions and centers and the organizational structures of the social cultural movement. These bodies will acquire the status of a legal entity, which will enable them to conduct economic activity in accordance with the nature of their plans.

Economic and legal conditions will be created for measures that extend beyond ministerial and branch divisions of responsibility and are suited to actual local needs and conditions.

A committee of experts, established by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, is working on solutions to problems concerning national education. Its activities will also cover matters relating to programs and structural solutions.

In several voivodships pilot projects are still being conducted. Their aim is to prepare urgent solutions to questions concerning, inter alia, the powers of school directors and pedagogical boards, the issue of pedagogical supervision, and the system for people's council involvement in school administration.

The review of the foreign service required a special approach. After conducting an examination, the team responsible for conducting the review formulated a series of proposals concerning ways of improving the work of diplomatic-consular and economic-trade representations and also drew attention to the need to take a number of action immediately. New legislation, which is being prepared, will provide a precise legal definition for the scope of the powers of government organs, both in Poland and abroad, with respect to independent economic units that are engaged in activity abroad.

The way in which the functions of foreign representations have evolved, in particular the decision of the trade counsellors' offices to stop its involvement in trade, will signify a change in the organizational model.

The diverse interests of the national economy with respect to individual groups of countries and the existence of a variety of political, economic, and legal conditions justify the postulate that there ought to be various types of economic-trade representations that would be better suited to the actual conditions under which they must operate.

One way in which the foreign service will be improved is through the merging of diplomatic-consular and economic-trade representations; this also applies to their financial and administrative organization and the premises that they occupy. Concrete proposals concerning this area will take account of actual conditions in the country in which a representation operates and will guarantee efficiency with respect to security and secrecy requirements.

The team responsible for the review of the foreign service also concluded that a number of problems that exist in the work of Polish representations require improvements in the system for the recruitment and training of cadres that will work abroad. The suggestions concerning this area relate to the verification of cadre policy, which includes a reduction in the number of posts of counselor-minister and counselor in favor of lower level posts.

Work on the proposed solutions will be completed during the second quarter of 1988 and will be implemented gradually. Social organizations ought to play a greater role in the system of self-management.

The purpose of the review of social organizations—attention will be focussed on national organizations that are subsidized from the state budget—is to:

make fuller use of the potential of these organizations by increasing their powers to include tasks that are currently performed by the state administration;

limit the growth of the professional apparatus and strengthen social forms of work with an emphasis being placed on the need for effectiveness;

determine the level of state budget expenditure on organizations that are subsidized by accurately defining the types of activity for which financial reimbursement will be available.

The examination of the status of these organizations yielded a number of recommendations concerning both them and state organs that provide subsidies to social organizations. It was recommended that state organs link the provision of subsidies to the performance of specific functions or activities. A joint Government-Party Commission has formulated a collection of proposals to the effect that certain functions that are currently performed by the state administration and certain powers that it exercises ought to be transferred to specific social organizations. Information on this subject has been published in the press. The transfer of these powers will be covered by legislation that will create appropriate guarantees of stability.

Esteemed comrades, a review of organizational structures and job certification is also being conducted in our and other political parties.

The basic goals of improving the work of party echelons and party employees were described at the Fourth Central Committee Plenum. In accordance with the decisions adopted at the plenum, the essence of review work is to accelerate the process of adapting party committees and their internal organization, the number and composition of the party apparatus, and party methods of operation to suit the changes that are taking place in the life of our country. The scope and nature of the changes that are being introduced ought to contribute to an increase in the militancy and effectiveness of the work of the entire party.

In accordance with the decisions adopted at the Fourth Central Committee Plenum, the number of Central Committee departments has been reduced from 15 to 12. There have been changes in the nature of the work performed by individual departments and the tasks assigned Central Committee political workers have been modified. The decision to reduce the number of Central Committee political workers by 20 percent is being implemented. As a result of the natural movement and rotation of cadres, an assessment of the usefulness of employees, and the policy of recruiting no new employees until 1 December 1988, staffing levels have been reduced by 17 percent. By the end of this year the number of persons employed by the Central Committee will decline to the level set by the Central Committee Secretariat.

After seeking the opinion of voivodship committees, on 7 December the Central Committee Secretariat approved a model apparatus structure for voivodship committees. As a result of these decisions, from 1 January 1988 there will be a significant simplification of voivodship committee structures, a reduction in the number of independent voivodship committee organizational cells, and structures will be coordinated with the organizational structure of the PZPR Central Committee. The number of political workers employed by voivodship committees will fall by 10 percent. These posts are already being or are about to be transferred to primary level echelons.

It ought to be added that the number of posts of department director or deputy director at the voivodship level will decline by 19 percent. Following the introduction of the modified voivodship committee structure, similar work will be carried out on PZPR town and district committees.

A flexible system for determining the number and structure of posts in Central Committee departments and voivodship committees will be introduced in January 1988.

As part of improving the work of the party apparatus, attention was drawn to the organization of the work of the party's technical infrastructure. The formation of partnership groups and teams for the performance of economic work without additional employment is being introduced extensively.

The services provided by regional centers for party work and primary level echelons that occupy the same buildings are being combined, and more up-to-date computer and communications technologies are being introduced. New organizational solutions are making it possible to reduce by about 10 percent the number of posts in the administrative and technical services of party committees.

What I have said indicates that the review of party organizational structures is at an advanced stage, and we are now implementing the decisions that have been made. We are also reaching the end of the job certification process with respect to political, and technical and administrative employees; it has covered 80 percent of posts in the party apparatus so far.

To conclude, one can say that the planned review activities for this year are proceeding according to schedule. They are creating a basis for further improvements to the work performed by the party apparatus and the political work conducted by party echelons and the entire party.

Esteemed comrades, the work of the Party-Government Commission is currently entering a new phase. The improvements that are being introduced ought to lead to tangible and socially noticeable changes.

The need for comprehensively efficient activity that stems from the economic policy contained in the second stage of the economic reform will accelerate this process.

Organizational progress cannot be "decreed" or introduced exclusively "from above." It must stem from the internal needs of basic social cells and be based on causal processes originating from below. Processes of this kind will be assisted by solutions designed to increase the authority and resources of people's councils at the basic level, and of regional and employee self-management bodies. It is also important to remove formal obstacles that place a check on enterprises. With this goal in mind, we will encourage and facilitate the launching of unconventional activities and the local level experiments that this entails.

Initiating processes geared toward organizational improvements is an important responsibility for party organizations, a task for social, self-management, and union organizations, as well as for people themselves directly.

The review and modernization of organizational structures in all fields is, at the same time, a very important criterion of managerial cadres' efficiency. Good organizational skills are a basic condition for the usefulness of people occupying managerial and leadership posts at all levels—from the minister or director responsible for a central institution to the foreman or brigade leader in charge of a group of workers. These matters will be dealt with more fully in preparatory work for the Seventh Central Committee Plenum and during the course of the plenum itself.

In view of its social character, the joint Party-Government Commission will continue to perform its role of encouraging the reorganization of structures and changes in their functioning, and to organize social cooperation in and supervision of the implementation of program undertakings.

At the same time, we are going over to the greater institutionalization of decisions and actions concerning implementation in that they will be dealt with directly by reformed central organs of government and the state administration and by regional authorities, because the review and modernization of structures is a matter that concerns all of us and will determine whether all state bodies operate correctly and effectively.

We are now starting work on a report on the organizational condition of the economy and the state. It is our intention that it will reflect two basic currents in the modernization of organizational structures. The first current is connected with the reorganization of the economy, the abandonment of the command system, and the introduction of functional structures that are unencumbered by hierarchical constraints. The second current stems from the strengthening of self-management, including the realization of the idea of local self-government, which establishes a new distribution of responsibility and authority at the regional level of state organization.

This is a fundamentally different approach from that of the rigid, centralized organizational system that has been developed over many years.

The transition to flexible structures for the attainment of goals marks such a radical change in thought and action that the proposals that have been made so far ought to be treated as a first step. We will have to return to some of the solutions currently employed and some we will have to change, but the most important thing is that the need for this will become permanent and universal.

The report will a be a synthesis of the commission's work covering the results produced by activities in all fields. It will be submitted at the National PZPR Delegate Conference.

Czyrek 15 Dec Address

AU211121 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 16 Dec 87 p 5

["Text" of speech by Jozef Czyrek, Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, at the 15 December Warsaw session of the Sejm: "Celebrations of the 70th Anniversary of the Great October and the Meeting of Parties and Social Movements and Organizations From All Over the World in Moscow"]

[Text]Esteemed comrades, while discussing the lines of intensifying our socialist reforms and accelerating the country's development, it is essential to go back to the recent celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and to the international Moscow meeting of representatives of almost 180 parties and social movements and organizations, in order to think over these great events for the benefit of the great cause of our renewal.

Our mass media published extensive reports on these celebrations, which greatly impressed our public. That is why I will present to you just general reflections produced by that important anniversary and meetings and by the participation in them of the Polish delegation led by W. Jaruzelski.

The 70th anniversary of the Great October occurred at a special period of acceleration in the great USSR—of the creative search for solutions that will trigger a new development in socialism. The CPSU is the driving force of this process, because it was the CPSU that sponsored the cause of revolutionary transformations.

The 70th anniversary celebrations were not limited to solemnly honoring the great jubilee and to stressing the momentous role of the October Revolution in our history. They indicated the imperishable significance of the revolution's lofty ideas and the continued vitality of Leninist teachings for the modern development of socialism. Going back to the past and searching for what determined the victory of the revolution and the great

socialist achievements in the USSR and the world constituted a point of departure for creative thinking about the need to overcome the increasing features of stagnation and to accelerate development and about the progressive forces' responsibility for the future of mankind and our globe.

This was the tenor of M. Gorbachev's speech at the jubilee meeting, during which he evaluated in a profound and meaningful way the pioneer road traversed by the USSR, its enormous achievements, decisive contribution to the annihilation of fascism, the unprecedented advancement of the Soviet peoples, and the foundations of the Soviet Union's present power and great international authority.

At the same time, M. Gorbachev's bold and principled speech pointed to weaknesses and past errors and to the subsequent failure to exploit various opportunities. M. Gorbachev said that failures and distortions occurred when the policy of socialist development based on the dialectic study of reality was replaced by voluntarism and the personality cult, both of which are alien to Marxism-Leninism, when those responsible were unable to adapt the forms and methods of socialist building to concrete conditions and development achievements in good time, and when they failed to combine economic changes with an extensive process of democratization.

The penetrating analysis produced an accurate picture of the crucial features of restructuring as a revolutionary process that is capable of accelerating the development of socialism and of strengthening its values, while extensively exploiting the unprecedented progress of world technology and science.

As W. Jaruzelski said at that jubilee meeting, the CPSU's present general line, "constitutes the updating of the Great October and merits the name of Leninism of the end of the 20th century."

A distinctive feature of this line is a critical and realistic analysis of the current issues of development. Another distinctive feature is the boldness with which solutions continue to be searched for in accordance with the current conditions and challenges of the future. This boldness has its source in the correctness of socialist values and in the creative application of the principles of Marxism-Leninism. Although our country's level of development is different from that of the Soviet Union's, both countries have many similar problems to solve. That is why our own concept for socialist renewal as proposed by the ninth party congress expresses the same stream of changes aimed at increasing the effectiveness of our system, intensifying people's rule, and strengthening the active role of man. These features are expressed by the PZPR program, the 10th congress resolutions, the resolutions of various plenums, and by the Politburo report presented to the Sixth Central Committee Plenum.

Restructuring continues to bring back the full majesty of the Leninist concept of socialism, whose essence is the good of the working man and the development of humanist values in social, political, and cultural relations, with the help of an efficient economy. The CPSU continues to stress with great force that the development and consolidation of socialist democracy and the radical economic reforms are the centerpiece of the restructuring.

The combined promotion of these two tasks and the development of man's creative forces and militancy are the universal law of socialist building and the main line of intensifying socialist renewal in our country. The report to this plenum and the present plenary discussion help to determine, develop, and accelerate this line.

Saying that "democratization is the soul of the restructuring," M. Gorbachev strongly accented the importance of the development of self-government, especially of the consolidation of councils at all levels.

This is certainly a new quality in the development of socialist democracy, one which crucially helps to realize our ideals.

The plenum report presented to you stresses that "the development of socialist self-government is the basic stream of democratization" and indicates further opportunities to expand national accord in the conditions of socialist pluralism, which are characteristic of our country. The report stresses the importance of intensifying socialist democracy so our country can grow in strength and can effectively play its inalienable role.

The fact that the issue of accelerating the process of our reform was subjected to a national referendum and to the judgment of our people is a particular feature of large-scale democratization. The way in which lessons were drawn by the party, the Sejm, and the government from the results of that referendum constitutes an example of democracy.

During the Moscow celebrations most determined assurances were made that the success of the restructuring will depend primarily on the party's energy and commitment. The recent CPSU session devoted to working out methods and freedoms of party activities to fit in with the great tasks of the second stage of the restructuring shows what great importance the Soviet comrades attach to this issue.

Strengthening the party as the vanguard force and as the sponsor and guarantor of the line of socialist renewal is also the central issue of our activities concerning the process of this renewal. This plenum is the continuation of our party's efforts to effectively realize its leading, guiding, and serving role in a new situation and at a given stage of socialist changes. This is also our basic task in the future.

The celebrations to mark the Great October Socialist Revolution stressed that socialism is now entering a new stage of its development and that it continues to regenerate its creative strength and to recover its development dynamics in all areas of domestic and international policy. The consistent implementation of the strategy of restructuring helps to strengthen the USSR's position and to boost its efforts to achieve a fundamental breakthrough in the development of the world situation.

The philosophy of restructuring amounts to a new approach toward modern international relations. A new thinking about these relations seeks to draw conclusions from the world's contradictions and threats and from the interdependence of fates and opportunities. This philosophy is based on the conviction that persisting in positions of mortal hostility is suicidal in view of the enormous concentration of weapons of total destruction. That is why, despite differences, disputes, and conflicts, it is most imperative to start thinking in terms of coexistence and in terms of what links and not what divides the nations. It is in this very spirit that the Moscow meeting of representatives of parties, movements, and governments took place in order to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. This was a meeting without precedent, the first meeting of communist, socialist, social democratic, and democratic parties in history; and a broad forum of forces of progress, democracy, and peace from all over the world.

Our party had indicated the need for such a meeting many times. Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski expressed this need at the 10th congress, stressing the importance of unity between communists and all forces of progress in the supreme matter of defending peace.

In fact, the Moscow talks were a new type of meeting. In accordance with the CPSU's proposal, they had no established agenda and did not call for any resolution or appeal. Their purpose was an unbridled exchange of opinions about the most important valid problems of the modern world.

Even though there was a variety of views and stances reflecting the variety of the forces taking part in this meeting, there was still a common understanding of the need to solve the problems facing mankind, especially the ones involving an end to the arms race and the threat of war, the consolidation of peace, and enhancement of international cooperation in various spheres, including the natural environment.

Great hopes for progress and a change in the international climate were attached to the Mikhail Gorbachev-Ronald Reagan summit. The important results of this summit have completely confirmed these hopes. We have witnessed an event that is most closely connected with the implementation of the famous peace decree and Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence, that great heritage of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The treaty to eliminate medium- and short-range missiles that has been signed in Washington is an historic accord, the first concrete step to denuclearize the modern world. We accord great respect and recognition to Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev's enormous contribution toward bringing about the conclusion of this major accord.

Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski has spoken about this today, presenting the results of the Warsaw Pact leaders' meeting in Berlin.

We believe our party's Central Committee should adopt a stance on such an important event as the Soviet-American summit in Washington. We suggest such a stance be expressed in the form of a suitable resolution of the present plenum.

Following the Washington meeting, the whole world is expecting a further fruitful development of Soviet-U.S. dialogue; revival of East-West relations; and further accords to consolidate peace, detente, and international cooperation.

Accelerating this process was a general postulate put forth at the Moscow meeting.

The general outcome of this meeting shows that a new, democratic left wing is taking shape, based on a respect for the programmatic and organizational identity of all partners and a readiness to reach accord on the most important human affairs. Such a common denominator was to be felt concerning issues which have been the source of differences and splits until now, for example:

—the historic role of the October Revolution in the world's political, economic, and social development;

—the recognition of perestroyka as an important development path of socialism, appropriate to the modern world;;

—a new philosophy of international relations concerning peace, disarmament, and detente;

—the need for a new world economic order, not only in North-South relations, but also in East-West relations.

More realism, and even a positive interest in our searches for socialist renewal, could be detected in the speeches of representatives of some parties who used to criticize the PZPR. Both of Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski's Moscow speeches were warmly received.

Of course there were different views about individual problems. Criticism was also voiced. For example, some social democratic parties called for an accelerated withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, but failed to call for a simultaneous end to the United States' funding and arming of fanatical and reactionary counterrevolutionary forces, a discrepancy which other parties pointed out.

All in all, however, the meeting proved that dialogue is possible even if there are political and ideological differences, that this dialogue can be constructive, and that it is possible to overcome these differences in the face of new, common problems.

As M.S. Gorbachev said in his concluding speech, the meeting was possible because the modern world is facing problems it has never known before. These problems are causing concern about the future of civilization not only in the minds of communists and other progressive streams, but also in the minds of all realistically-thinking people.

The contents of this meeting are a major stimulus for the international workers movement and for progressive and democratic forces so that they may help solve the world's basic problems.

The Moscow meeting was an opportunity to become better acquainted with one another. Many artificial barriers between parties and movements were removed. The fact that a series of representatives of socialist parties spoke out in favor of similar meetings in future, also on a regional basis, in order to discuss concrete problems was significant and valuable. This permits the view that a major step forward has been made along the complex road of joint activity between all progressive forces concerning peace and an end to the threat of nuclear extermination.

The broad support for the Soviet restructuring, transformations in the fraternal countries, and Soviet Union's peace offensive displayed by the left-wing and progressive forces at the Moscow meeting and celebrations is increasing socialism's international prestige, influence, and attraction.

Comrades! The 70th anniversary celebrations of the Great October Socialist Revolution have shown yet again that the restructuring in the USSR and socialist renewal in Poland have the same ideological sources and goals.

On the basis of these sources, we are also working out during the current plenum solutions that suit our Polish conditions and constitute a Polish model of socialist transformations. In this way we are contributing to the treasury of joint experience in socialist construction.

This is causing an unprecedented rapprochement not only between Polish and Soviet communists, but also between the Polish and Soviet peoples, who see great chances for themselves in the new prospects our parties have opened. This in turn is making it plain that historic optimism, so necessary today, is a driving force in our ideology.

Paper Comments on USSR-U.S. Missile Treaty

AU211526 Bucharest LUMEA in Romanian
No 51. 17 Dec 87

[Vasile Crisu article: "Result of a Realistic Policy, A Step That Must Be Continued"]

[Text] Last week's high-level dialogue between the USSR and the United States in Washington (the third such dialogue in the past 2 years) has culminated, as is well-known, with the signing of the USSR-U.S. treaty on eliminating medium-range and shorter-range missiles from Europe and Asia. For the first time in the post-war period, the sides confirmed—in the precise terms of an internationally valid legal document—their determination to physically destroy two of the most dangerous classes of nuclear weapons. A first effective step was thus made toward eliminating nuclear arsenals; this amounts to a beginning along the road of comprehensive and all-around disarmament—a road so ardently desired by nations—in keeping with all of mankind's vital interests for peace.

From the high rostrum of our party's national conference, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu stressed the particular importance of this document, as a victory of a realist policy. The secretary general of our party and president of the Republic said: "An event of worldwide historic significance has just taken place, namely, the signing of the USSR-U.S. treaty on eliminating a whole series of nuclear weapons—medium- and shorter-range missiles. The signing of the first agreement on eliminating nuclear missiles is a result of realistic thinking and of grasping the fact that nuclear weapons cannot be used, that there will be no victors in a nuclear war, but only losers, and that the existence of mankind and life itself on our planet will be endangered."

The negotiations for this agreement have been long (they started in 1981) and experienced difficulties on quite a few occasions (they were interrupted in 1983 and were resumed in 1985). In the end, a constructive spirit prevailed and a consensus could be achieved. The psychological barrier—which, at a certain point, seemed to be insurmountable—could be overcome, by focusing negotiations between the two great states on a new approach to the cardinal issue of our age, namely, the safeguarding of peace and the elimination of the great danger posed by the existence of huge arsenals of arms, primarily nuclear weapons.

Everybody is familiar with the support granted by responsible political factors from many countries and by the public opinion to realistically and constructively tackling of this problem. Public opinion has consistently emphasized the importance that an agreement on eliminating the U.S. and Soviet medium- and shorter-range missiles could have on the improvement of the world climate and the positive impact of such an agreement on asserting a new way of thinking, based on renunciation of confrontation, and stimulating a broad and equitable cooperation in international life. At the RCP National Conference, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu justifiably said: "The signing of this agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States is the direct outcome of the intensified struggle of realistic forces everywhere and of nations throughout the world, who have firmly spoken out for disarmament and for renunciation of nuclear weapons."

A reason for satisfaction is the fact that Romania has always been in the front ranks of the forces which advocated a successful conclusion of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on disarmament. Through his frequent stands and concrete initiatives and actions—among which, of decisive practical value was the initiative to separate the negotiations on problems of eliminating medium-range missiles from the "package" being discussed in Geneva and to deal with them separately—President Nicolae Ceausescu emphasized the urgent need to use this decisive moment for mankind's future and not to waste the historic chance to reach an agreement in such a vital field, disarmament, which is the cornerstone of the start of the complex process of building a new world, without arms and wars, a world of peaceful cooperation and progress for all nations.

Now, the first real agreement on disarmament in the postwar history has been signed; it is a concrete beginning—through its decision to eliminate medium-and shorter-range missiles—and a committed promise for other similar understandings in the sphere of strategic nuclear weapons and other categories of weapons, in the not-too-distant future. Mankind naturally expects to complete the road of eliminating all nuclear weapons and substantially reducing classical and conventional arsenals as well as military troops and expenditures.

Concerning the content of the Soviet-U.S. treaty concluded in Washington (it also includes, as an integral part, a number of annex documents), one should point out a number of its general features, before presenting its main provisions. Thus, as it is evident from various statements made, this is the first agreement that will eliminate two classes of nuclear weapons, not because they have become outdated from a physical and moral viewpoint, but because they are too dangerous for mankind and civilization. Although it is formally a Soviet-U.S. agreement only, this is also the first agreement that will remove the respective nuclear means from the territory of nine states. Likewise, it is the first agreement that contains the idea of a comprehensive control and verification, with the states permitting inspectors on their territory. Finally, it is the first agreement which, through its very essence, confirms the real nature and the possibility of a nuclear-free world.

Concerning the treaty provisions as such, they stipulate that the Soviet Union and the United States will eliminate medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles, that they will no longer possess such weapons, and that each of the two sides will eliminate its own medium-range

nuclear weapons so that three years, at the latest, from the treaty becoming effective, none of the sides will still possess such missiles, launching pads, and related constructions and installations. Once the treaty has taken effect, none of the sides will produce or test such missiles. As for shorter-range nuclear missiles, their elimination deadline is 18 months from the date the treaty goes into effect. A special article of the treaty is devoted to issues of mutual verification. The treaty is for an unlimited duration.

On the signing of this treaty, Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan addressed messages to the Soviet and American nations. They said that this document will open up the road to peace, through the start of a concrete process of disarmament, peace, and trust. Emphasizing that the current treaty is but one step along the road of disarmament, the U.S. President said that "we wish for a peace that can satisfy the expectations of nations to live in freedom and security." In his turn, Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that the treaty—according to which, for the first time in history, two classes of nuclear weapons will be destroyed under conditions of strict control—is just a beginning and that its further progress requires intensive work and sincere efforts to overcome everything that feeds the arms race.

As a matter of fact, the joint declaration issued at the end of the USSR-U.S. high-level talks in Washington points out that the primary problems of disarmament will be further discussed during the U.S. President's visit to the Soviet Union in the first half of next year, the overall goal being to ensure that the two states continue to contribute, together with other states and peoples, to building a more secure peace.

Deeply attached to the cause of disarmament and peace, Romania—through its most authoritative voice, that of President Nicolae Ceausescu—calls on Mikhal Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and on U.S. President Ronald Reagan to continue negotiations on reducing strategic nuclear weapons and other categories of arms, so that the nations can concentrate their efforts on constructive activity conducted under a broad an mutually advantageous cooperation under conditions of full security, freedom, and independence, to the benefit of peace and overall prosperity. "From the high rostrum of the national conference," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu said, "on behalf of the Romanian people, I sincerely congratulate the Soviet Union and the United States on signing the agreement on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles. We call on the Soviet Union and the United States and on CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan to continue their negotiations and efforts to conclude a treaty on a 50-percent reduction of strategic weapons, halt nuclear tests, renounce the programs on the militarization of outer space, and resolutely proceed to totally eliminating nuclear weapons in the future. This is in full accordance with the interests of the two great powers and of all nations in the world and with the cause of the defense of peace and life on our planet."

Our country and all Romanian people hail with satisfaction the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on eliminating medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles and considers it as an important first step along the road of completely eliminating nuclear weapons from our planet, thus meeting the expectations and strivings of all nations to live in a world freed from the nightmare of nuclear destruction, a world of peace and cooperation. However, in view of the fact that there are still huge stockpiles of nuclear weapons in the world, weapons that can destroy mankind several times over, our country considers this treaty to be just a beginning, which should lead to intensifying the united actions and struggle of all nations and of the world public opinion for the final elimination of nuclear arms and other mass destruction weapons. "This victory of a realistic kind of policy and of the action of nations everywhere," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu stressed, "must give a new impetus to the struggle of the great antinuclear front, the great front of peace. We must never become complacent. On the contrary, we must intensify our efforts and struggle to reach new agreements on gradually eliminating all nuclear weapons, totally halting nuclear tests, and clearly renouncing the militarization of outer space."

In this respect, the Romanian president emphasized the particular role and responsibility incumbent upon the European states. "In view of the danger posed by these weapons for Europe," Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu said, "we cannot comprehend the statements made by certain politicians and states, which state that they will continue to produce and improve nuclear weapons." Therefore, it is necessary to intensify the action of European states to eliminate these weapons. In this spirit of high responsibility for the destiny of Europe and of peace throughout the world, President Nicolae Ceausescu ardently called—from the rostrum of the national conference—on the European states and nations and on heads of state and government to resolutely pledge to do their best to eliminate all kinds of nuclear weapons from Europe, bring about conventional disarmament, develop cooperation, and create a united Europe of all states, regardless of social system.

Public opinion in Romania expresses the conviction that the Soviet Union and the United States, which possess the largest part of nuclear armaments, will resolutely continue their negotiations and efforts to reach new agreements along the road of promoting nuclear and conventional disarmament, putting an end to nuclear tests, and halting the militarization of outer space.

Further on Removal of Brasov, Dolj Deputies

AU220840 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 19 Dec 87 p 5

["Electoral Meetings To Revoke Two Deputies to the Grand National Assembly"]

[Text] In accordance with provisions of the electoral law, meetings of voters took place on Friday, 18 December, in two Grand National Assembly [GNA] constituencies: No. 3 Craiova-Craiovita Noua, Dolj County and No. 1 Brasov-Inner City, Brasov County. The meetings examined the proposal of the Executive Bureau of the National Council of the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front [SDUF] to revoke the mandate of GNA Deputies Marin Lungu and Manole Sechi.

Deputy Marin Lungu, former first secretary of Craiova Municipal RCP Committee, seriously violated party discipline and norms. Deputy Manole Sechi, former general director of the Brasov Truck Industrial Complex, committed serious offences in implementing the new economic-financial mechanism and the principles of workers self-management and economic-financial self-administration.

Participants of the electoral meetings condemned the violations committed by the two deputies and unanimously voted to adopt the SDUF proposal on revoking their GNA mandate. Those who took the floor fully endorsed the content of the decision adopted by the 27 November 1987 meeting of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee. They emphasized the particular concern of the RCP leadership with observing the country's laws and the party-state decisions and with promoting an overall firm revolutionary stance, in order to ensure that all citizens of the country are defending the principles of socialist ethics and equity.

The electoral commissions of the two constituencies—set up in accordance with the electoral law provisions—completed the drafting of the relevant legal documents, which will be submitted to the GNA.

PEC Meeting Examines Program To Ensure Food

AU211825 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1643 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 21/12/1987—On Monday, December 21, RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu chaired a meeting of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP.

During the meeting the Executive Political Committee examined the self-management and self-sufficiency programme for ensuring a good supply of the population with food products and industrial consumer goods in 1988.

It was stressed that the population's supply with food products depended on the turning out of the planned productions and the strict observance of the provisions of the law regarding the state stock. The quantities of food products stipulated to be delivered in compliance with the demands of the programme of scientific nutrition, differentiated by counties, function of population, share of working personnel, efforts made during the production process. [sentence as received]

The self-sufficiency programme stipulates the number of animals required by a good supply of the population by counties.

The people's councils, as self-management and self-sufficiency bodies, will have to take resolute measures to ensure the livestock and the live weight, as well as to fulfill the tasks concerning the deliveries to the market stock. If live weight provisions are topped, the production increase is to additionally supply the local consumption stock. If live weight provisions are not fulfilled, the number of animals planned for the respective county will not be supplemented.

The measures set under this programme provide for a per capita meat consumption of nearly 70 kg in 1988. They also stipulate an average fish consumption of some 15 kg per inhabitant. Growing quantities of milk and dairy products, other foodstuffs, potatoes, vegetables, fruit and grapes are also envisaged.

Adding to the livestock and the quantities of foodstuffs to be supplied through the state stock are the number of animals and the quantities of farm-food produce obtained in the population's homesteads as well as the quantities of cereals, vegetables and potatoes the cooperative farmers receive in compensation for their work.

It is also envisaged that the population will be appropriately supplied with high-tech and high-quality industrial products in a wide range.

In 1988, services to the population continue developing, with emphasis on the diversification and growth of their volume and quality.

Approving of the self-sufficiency and self-management programme so as to ensure a proper supply of the population with farm-food produce and industrial consumer goods in 1988, the Executive Political Committee decided that it should be submitted to the Grand National Assembly for debate.

The Executive Political Committee analysed and approved a report on the balance sheet of the basic foodstuffs obtained from the 1987 crops. It was assessed that this year the cereal crop stood at 31.7 million tons, while the yields with the other crops provided for an appropriate supply of the population with farm-food produce just as the satisfaction of the national economy's demands for raw materials.

Ceausescu Addresses SDUF Plenary Meeting

AU211844 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1653 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 21/12/1987—Gathered in plenum on December 21, under the chairmanship of the RCP general secretary, Romania's president, chairman of the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front

[SDUF], Nicolae Ceausescu, the SDUF National Council debated and approved the draft single national plan of the country's socioeconomic development for 1988, the draft plan of the development of agriculture, food industry, silviculture and water management for 1988, the 1988 draft state budget and the self-management and self-sufficiency programme for the ensurance of the population's good supply with food products and consumer goods in 1988.

The agenda of the plenary meeting also included a resolution-appeal of the SDUF National Council.

In their addresses the participants in the debates underlined that the abovementioned documents ensured, through their provisions, the sustained growth of industry, agriculture, and of the other branches, and the intensive development of the national economy. The speakers expressed their full adhesion to the RCP and Romanian state home and foreign policy.

The participants unanimously approved the documents on the agenda, as well as the resolution-appeal of the SDUF National Council.

President Nicolae Ceausescu took the floor during the plenary meeting. His speech was followed with keen interest and full approval.

The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Socialist Democracy and Unity Organization was held on the same day to debate the documents on Romania's socioeconomic development in 1988, the tasks incumbent on the organization, on all members for the attainment of the targets set.

More on Officials Speeches to RCP Conference

Energy Minister's Address

AU220756 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 16 Dec 87 p 6

[Report on "Speech by Comrade Petre Fluture," member of the RCP Central Committee and minister of electric power, at the RCP National Conference on 15 December in Bucharest]

[Text] Much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu,

Much esteemed Comrade Elena Ceausescu,

Esteemed comrades,

Allow me, on behalf of the communists and all workers in the energy sector, to express our total endorsement for Party Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's masterly report at the national conference, a document of exceptional theoretical and practical value that brilliantly defines the current stage of socialist construction in Romania and clear-sightedly marks out concrete ways and means of action to unswervingly implement the 13th party congress decisions and the great targets for an intensive and comprehensive development of our beloved fatherland.

The outstanding results scored by our people and the revolutionary changes that have taken place in all fields during the years of building the new system—particularly in the period inaugurated by the ninth party congress, the most fertile period in our entire history—strongly prove in actual fact the correctness of the policy promoted by our Communist Party and the innovative force of the revolutionary thinking and action of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, hero among the nation's heroes, who has decisively left his imprint on the new socialist destiny of the fatherland, thus ensuring its free and independent development and the growth of the working people's material and intellectual standard of living.

I have the happy opportunity to express, with profound respect and ardent love, the warmest homage that all energy workers are paying to you, much esteemed and beloved comrade secretary general, brilliant founder of modern Socialist Romania, eminent communist militant, and enlightened patriot, for everything you have done and are doing to ensure the well-being and happiness of our nation and for the brilliant, wise, and clear-sighted way in which you are leading the fatherland and people along the victorious road of socialism and communism. We express our thanks and full gratitude for your constant and daily support for our efforts to fulfill the national energy programs.

Further, the speaker said: Acting to implement your orientations and recommendations, we report to you, much esteemed comrade secretary general, that the working collectives from the energy sector have managed this year to achieve a 3.5 percent growth rate of industrial commodity production and to increase coal-based electric energy production by 4 percent and thermal energy production by 4.5 percent; we reduced the technological consumption of electric power in our own installations by 2 percent compared with last year's achievements. Likewise, in keeping with your recommendations, we are involved in designing, modernizing, and completing thermoelectric plants with 50 MW units, the Cernavoda nuclear power plant, high-tension lines and stations, and major thermal trunk lines and we are preparing new sites for other nuclear-power plants.

Examining critically and self-critically the activity carried out in the energy sector, the speaker said: The criticism leveled at us by you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu is fully justified. You criticized us for the persistence of phenomena of indiscipline, for violations of technological standards, and for failure to do repair and maintenance work on installations that were inadvertently out of order. Likewise, we must admit that because of certain deficiencies in the ministry's activity, including the activity of the

minister and the Executive Bureau, there are still shortcomings in the operation of installations—their performance is poor, they often come to a stand still, and the maintenance work leaves much to be desired. In the investments sector, we failed to take resolute action, in our capacity as consumers, to ensure that equipment suppliers and monitors observe planned timetables. As a result of these shortcomings, we failed to achieve the planned level of electric power at the coal-based plants.

Much esteemed comrade secretary general, we are fully aware of the great responsibility we bear and of the decisive importance of the fulfillment of energy programs for the national economy. We report to you that we have examined our activity in a spirit of great responsibility and in the light of your recommendations and have established concrete programs, technologies, and operational instructions for each separate operation and installation, while also ensuring the necessary technical assistance—including assistance from research institutes—spare parts and fuel for the winter period. Similarly, we are taking firm steps, in the spirit of your recommendations at the 20 November 1987 meeting of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee, to instill order and discipline in each unit and collective and ensure strict observance of operational and functional technologies, by monitoring the skills of the entire personnel and raising their professional training level.

This year, we have to commission a productive capacity of 1,600 MW, of which 950 MW is in thermal power plants and 650 MW in hydropower plants. We report to the national conference that thus far we have commissioned 460 MW. Another 740 MW are undergoing technological tests, and 140 MW are in an advanced stage of assembly. We are acting in a spirit of responsibility and exactingness to administer energy properly, to ensure that consumption does not exceed approved quotas, and to see that the prescribed timetable spreads out the load of electricity equally during all three shifts and days of the week to avoid uneconomical and expensive peak-time usage, and to generally apply all measures to reduce energy consumption. Within the framework of measures for better organizing productive processes in the electric and thermal energy sector, we have taken steps to complete the modernization of the 330 MW units in Rovinari and Turceni and of boilers with 420 tonnes of steam per hour. We will reduce the density of power lines, in order to rationalize transport and distribution.

In conclusion, the speaker said: Drawing all the necessary lessons from the exacting PEC analysis of failures in the energy field, all of us working in this sector report to the national conference that—in the current exceptional situation that prevails in our power grid—we are strongly mobilized and fully committed to fulfilling our tasks. In the spirit of the 27 November 1987 PEC decision, we will take highly responsible steps to strengthen the party spirit, discipline and order, and the responsibility of party organizations and cadres for the way in which the party's decisions and country's laws are being implemented. We will take a firm stance against any trends and phenomena of complacency that may become evident.

We assure you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and we pledge before the party national conference that all working people from the energy sector will work with unflinching determination and will spare no effort to fulfill plan tasks for this year and the entire 5-year plan, in the spirit of your guidelines and recommendations. Our working deeds and the complete commitment to implementing the party-state domestic and foreign policy represent the most ardent homage that we can pay to party Secretary General and President of the Republic Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, illustrious leader of the party and country; passionate patriot, who for 55 years has devoted his life and untiring revolutionary activity to ensuring Romania's independence and the Romanian people's well-being; and prominent personality of the contemporary political world, who is unswervingly working to raise the country to new peaks of progress and civilization and build a better and more just world on our planet.

Agriculture Minister's Address

AU212043 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 16 Dec 87 pg 7

[Report on "Speech by Comrade Gheorghe David," candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and minister of agriculture, at the RCP National Conference on 15 December in Bucharest]

[Text] Much esteemed and beloved Comrade Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu,

Much esteemed Comrade Elena Ceausescu,

Esteemed comrades,

We report to the national conference and to you personally, much esteemed and beloved Comrade Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu, that the working people in agriculture have worked and are working ever more resolutely to implement the directives of the 13th RCP Congress and the provisions of special programs on further increasing agricultural production, in accordance with the targets of the new agrarian revolution.

By consistently applying Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's innovative concept on the development of agriculture on modern and intensive bases and by implementing the guidelines and tasks set for us during his countless working visits to agricultural production and research units, we have taken steps to better use the land, increase soil fertility, and apply the established technologies. Consequently, in the first two years of the current 5-year

plan, we have increased average yields for grain and other crops and have expanded the number of livestock and the quantities of agricultural produce delivered to state stocks.

The speaker then said that an outstanding contribution to the achievement of these results was made by agricultural scientific research, which supplied our agricultural production with highly efficient strains and hybrids, with improved technologies, and with new and increasingly more efficient methods of work. With particular esteem and respect, we thank Comrade Academician Doctor Engineer Elena Ceausescu, scientist of great world renown, under whose direct leadership and guidance our scientific research is making an increasingly greater contribution to attaining the goals of the new agrarian revolution.

In the last two years, an important number of agricultural units have obtained record productions of wheat, barley, corn, sunflower, soya, sugar beet, potatoes, vegetables, and livestock, in accordance with the requirements and targets of the new agrarian revolution. In spite of all this, we must openly state that the plan was not fulfilled and there are important lags at a significant number of indicators. Results obtained in vegetable production are below the existing potential and technical-material base. The unsatisfactory productions attained by many units cannot be blamed on unfavorable weather conditions alone. A concrete and exacting examination of these small productions, which are well below existing possibilities, shows that they were caused by a lack of concern and responsibility on the part of some of our management and technical cadres—both from the ministry and county agricultural bodies and from the relevant productive units—for properly administering the land, organizing work, and performing operations in accordance with existing norms and laws.

In zootechnies, the unsatisfactory productions, the high mortality rate that led to losses, and the low overall birth rate registered are mainly a result of the fact that certain agricultural units have failed to work in a responsible spirit to secure the necessary quantity and quality of fodder and to properly store and administer all existing fodder resources.

The growth of the vegetable and animal production and the concern with better administering fixed assets and the existing material and financial means, the speaker said, has caused many agricultural units to carry out a profitable activity. However, the economic-financial situation of certain agricultural units continues to be unsatisfactory, as many units failed to take firm steps to fully achieve and deliver the required vegetable and animal agricultural produce to the state stocks, to make up their expenses from the sale of their products, and to strictly observe the approved maximum limits for expenditures.

The speaker then referred to various analyses conducted by local organizations and in the plenary meeting of the ministry's party committee with the aktiv. In the spirit of the 27 November resolution of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee, steps were taken to raise the political-ideological training and increase the responsibility of all agricultural workers, with a view to strengthening order and discipline, unswervingly observing party decisions and the country's laws, and improving the working style and methods of management cadres and collective leadership bodies, from the ministry down to the level of productive units and farms.

The plan for 1988 and up to 1990, the speaker said, provides for important increases in the grain, industrial plants, and fruit-growing sectors as well as in animal breeding. In order to exemplarily implement these provisions, steps will be taken to fully prepare the agricultural and arable areas stipulated by plan, both by turning nonproductive areas into productive ones and by restoring areas that have been taken out of the agricultural circuit.

In order to recover existing lags in land improvement operations, measures were adopted to better organize activities on worksites.

In the animal breeding sector, we will take more energetic steps to increase the fodder production, including the use of natural pastures, to achieve the planned number of livestock, and, on this basis, the planned productions of meat, milk, eggs, and wool.

We will strive to rapidly apply the results of agricultural scientific research in production and to generally disseminate the experience of front-ranking productive units. Likewise, we will adopt firm measures to reduce material consumption and production costs and to strictly observe financial standards, in order to increase the economic efficiency and profitability of all agricultural units.

On behalf of all those working in agriculture, the speaker said in conclusion, please allow me, much esteemed and beloved Comrade Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu, to pay you warm homage and express our profound gratitude for your constant care and support for the development and modernization of agriculture.

Fully endorsing our party-state domestic and foreign policy, we pledge to work better, in a more organized manner, and in a spirit of high communist responsibility and exemplary discipline, to commendably fulfill the 1988 plan and the entire 5-year plan, so that our agriculture can make an ever-more important contribution to promoting the flourishing of the fatherland and raising the well-being of the entire nation.

Defense Minister's Address

AU212023 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 17 Dec 87 pp 7 and 8

[Report on "Speech by Comrade Vasile Milea," candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and minister of national defense, at the RCP National Conference on 16 December in Bucharest]

[Text] Much esteemed and beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general, president of the SR of Romania, supreme commander of the Armed Forces,

Much esteemed Comrade Elena Ceausescu,

Esteemed comrades,

Like all cardinal political events in the life of our party, people, and fatherland during the years of the most fruitful era in all of Romanian history, the proceedings of the current national conference deeply bear the imprint of the innovative thinking and deeds of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, the genius under whose brilliant leadership the Romanian nation is unswervingly marching forward along the road of socialism and communism.

It is a true happy occurrence, fully deserved by our heroic nation, that we are led by an outstanding leader, who embodies the choicest virtues of the Romanian people, who faithfully expresses their ideals and aspirations for progress, unity, dignified and free development, independence, and sovereignty, and who puts his original and clear-sighted thinking, his tireless energy, and his bright life as a peerless revolutionary and fiery patriot in the service of the fatherland's flourishing.

Reiterating the entire Army's full endorsement of the domestic and international policy elaborated and promoted under your wise leadership, allow me, much esteemed and beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, to express ardent sentiments of love, respect, devotion, and gratitude—nurtured for you by all those serving the fatherland under the banner—for your constant concern with our people's destiny and with our fatherland's progress toward new peaks of civilization and for your untiring struggle to ensure a climate of understanding and peace in the world.

It is to your incontestable merit, much esteemed Comrade Party Secretary General, that Romania did not become involved in the arms race. Military expenditures have been maintained at the same level for years on end; moreover, these expenditures were even cut down, thus presenting the world with a bright example of steadfastness in the struggle for disarmament.

All those present here are under the strong impression of the priceless theses, ideas, and guidelines included in Party Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's report, a historic document that stands out through its rigorous scientific analysis, revolutionary enthusiasm, communist firmness and intransigence, high spirit of responsibility for the fatherland's destiny, daring in the promotion of what is new, realism and lucidity in scanning the horizons, and boundless trust in the people's creative capacity of unflinchingly implementing the party program and the decisions of the 13th congress.

The military, from soldier to general—proud of the great achievements that are becoming true today, that wonderful "golden dream" forecast by our forefathers—is inspired by the firm conviction that your illustrious leadership is guarantee of the fact that all mobilizing tasks and targets discussed at the national conference will be implemented through our people's work and struggle.

We also pay warm and respectful homage to Comrade Academician Doctor Engineer Elena Ceausescu, eminent politician and scientist of great world renown, for her outstanding work devoted to the flourishing of Romanian science, education, and culture, which are decisive elements of the fatherland's socioeconomic development.

Never forgetting for a single moment that the Army's main mission to train the soldiers for the defense of the country's independence and sovereignty, the speaker further said, I report to the national conference that, by unswervingly applying your thesis, according to which the defense of the fatherland is the cause and work of the entire nation, we have constantly acted with good and very good results for promoting joint-training programs with the patriotic guards, the Ministry of Interior units, and other defense formations, therefore continuously diversifying and improving cooperation with these units and other local defense councils.

The orientations and measures adopted by the plenary meeting of the National Council for Science and Education, a forum led with highly scientific competence and authority by Comrade Academician Doctor Engineer Elena Ceausescu represented for us a concrete program that led to improving military education, scientific research, and cadre training; modernizing the material training base; avoiding duplication and useless expenditures; and fashioning thoroughly trained fighters, while reducing material, fuel, and energy consumption.

I report to the national conference, the speaker further said, that—by implementing the decisions of the 13th congress and the provisions of the supreme commander's directive on military and political preparedness and by carrying out its activity on the basis of the national military doctrine, the illustrious founder of which is Party Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu—the Army, which is boundlessly devoted to the cause of the party and people, is today a strong military body, with a valuable corps of thoroughly trained cadres and

soldiers who are always ready, along with the entire nation, to defend the country's independence, sovereignty, and integrity and to also contribute to our national economic development.

The Army is deeply grateful to you that you enabled it to prove its boundless patriotism and devotion to the fatherland, party, and people, not only through a high level of combat and political training, but also through effective participation in the country's socioeconomic development. We report to you, much esteemed comrade supreme commander, that—in accordance with your recommendations—we have used scores of combat machines that have become redundant as a result of their reduction from military arsenals in November last year, in fulfilling these tasks set for us. The military, who is working on more than 180 economic projects, has fulfilled plan provisions for the entire year 30 days ahead of schedule and we anticipate that, by the end of the year, we will exceed plan provisions by about 7 percent.

These results, the speaker further said, are the fruit of political-educational work and of the implementation of your goal to turn each unit and subunit into strong patriotic and revolutionary combat detachments. The Army is not only a school for turning out fighters, but also a school of work and diligence, a school for fashioning citizens that are conscious builders of socialism.

In spite of all the results, we report to you that certain units and subunits have failed to fully attain planned productivity indicators, use equipment to capacity, observe established material and energy consumption norms, or complete irrigation projects on schedule. Not all cadres realized that the most efficient way of training cadres and reducing expenditures in productive activities is to enhance military order and discipline, thoroughly organize the instructive-educational process, and firmly execute orders.

The orientations and assessments of high revolutionary exactingness established by you, much esteemed comrade secretary general, during various PEC meetings have determined the ministry leadership, all units and commands, and all party bodies and organizations to carry out a profound examination of the existing situation. Firm steps were taken to improve the management style and methods, raise the overall degree of commitment, exactingness, and responsibility in carrying out tasks, and to make it quite clear that the Army is no exception from the standards established for all our social institutions and that it must constitute an example of implementing and observing the party's decisions and country's laws.

Fully endorsing, on behalf of all military men, the overwhelmingly significant theses, ideas, and orientations included in your report, which will become a broad action, work, and combat program for all our soldiers—the speaker said in conclusion—the Army, in full unity of thought and feeling with the entire nation, is paying profound and respectful homage to you for your exemplary activity devoted to the fatherland's ceaseless progress and its greater prestige in the world. We wish you, much esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu full health, long life, and many fruitful years at the head of our party and state, to the benefit, glory, and greatness of Socialist Romania.

Chamber Finance Committee Rejects 1988 Budget

LD212158 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1349 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 21 Dec (TANJUG)—The proposed budget for next year totalling 5.769 billion dinars, is not in accordance with either the anti-inflation program or the policy to reduce both general and joint expenditure. A recommendation was therefore made for the FEC to reconsider the volume of both revenue and spending as envisioned in next year's draft budget.

Put in simpler terms, this assessment, made today at the beginning of the proceedings in the Finance Committee of the Chamber of the Republics and Provinces to coordinate the budget, means that neither the republics nor the provinces accept the proposed budget volume and that both expect it to be reduced, particularly in view of the fact that compared with this year's budget, the federal budget for next year is increased by 87.1 percent while the deflationary factor amounts to 80 percent.

The republics and provinces also object to the size of their own contributions to the budget, especially in light of the fact that their overall expenditure for federal requirements is increased many times in comparison with this year. [passage omitted]

Federal Chamber Assembly Continues Meeting

Finance Secretary's Address

LD181123 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1738 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 17 Dec (TANJUG)—The draft federal budget for 1988 was drawn up, Rikanovic recalled, on the basis of the law on temporary restrictions on the use of a portion of social resources of sociopolitical communities and self-management interest communities in social activities for 1988, emphasized Svetozar Rikanovic, federal secretary for finance, in his introductory report to the discussion of the federal budget at today's session of the Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly. [sentence as received]

On this basis, the overall volume of the 1988 federal budget expenditures has been proposed so that the resources for the Yugoslav People's Army are calculated on the basis of its 5.2 percent share of the estimated national income for 1988, with the proviso that the funds are immediately reduced by 5 percent. The supplementary resources for the economically inadequately developed republics and the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo have been calculated on the basis of their 0.53 percent share of the estimated social product, also with the 5 percent reduction provision. The resources for all other users of the federal budget have been worked out on the basis of the estimated growth of social economy in the SFRY, reduced by 10 percent.

On this basis, on the overall federal budget balance sheet, the resources for the Yugoslav People's Army have a 66.6 percent share, the share of the economically inadequately developed socialist republics and the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo is 7.7 percent, the share of the resources for disabled war veterans' welfare payments and pensions for insured military personnel is 18.5 percent, and the share of the resources for the work of federal organs and for other intentions financed from the federal budget is the remaining 7.2 percent, said the federal secretary of finance.

The degree of restrictiveness within the federal budget for this year is higher than it was when laid down by the assembly when it rescheduled the budget. This is because the resources for 1987 were then determined on the basis of the December evaluation of the social product and national income by appropriate federal organs, assuming the same size budget, or, rather, assuming the same size draft budget as proposed for 1988, the rate of its increase would have amounted to 76 percent, not to 87.1 percent, as shown in this draft. It is therefore realistic to assume that the draft federal budget for 1988 is restrictive with regard to balancing out the resources to finance general and social needs at the federal level, stressed Rikanovic.

The fact must be emphasized in particular, he added, that the share of the the overall federal budget expenditure in the actual social product of the country is being continually reduced: from 6.7 percent in 1982, to 6.5 percent in 1986, and again 6.5 percent in the draft budget for 1988. As is known, in the Yugoslav social plan for the period 1986-1990, this percentage has been limited to 7.5.

In accordance with these orientations, the resources to finance the Yugoslav People's Army and the economically inadequately developed socialist republics and the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo have been planned at 4,286 billion dinars, which is about 75 percent of the total outlays of the federal budget for 1988.

The sub-balance of the resources to finance the Yugoslav People's Army in the draft federal budget for next year has been reduced, as this year, by 5 percent in relation to the rights inherent in the Yugoslav social plan for the period 1986-1990. It should be emphasized that because the second rescheduling of the federal budgeting this year was not carried out the Yugoslav People's Army will in fact sustain a higher degree of restriction than 5 percent, which is the amount initiated by the federal secretariat of national defense itself. This has had and will have an impact on the liquidity of the sub-balance of the Yugoslav People's Army budget, which has to be taken into account in connection with the federal budget final accounts for this year and also in connection with fixing the budget for next year, emphasized Rikanovic.

It must be stated in this context that these circumstances have considerable repurcussions for the implementation of the program adopted by the highest organs of the country, while the lack of liquidity of the sub-balance of the Yugoslav People's Army budget, which I have mentioned, will also directly affect the state of liquidity in a great section of the Yugoslav economy (food industry, textile industry, footwear industry, metal industry, arms and military equipment, and the like). It is therefore perhaps superfluous to stress that the expenditure side of the part of the federal budget is very closely tied to revenue interests and economic operations conditions of a section of the Yugoslav economy.

The resources for disabled war veterans' welfare payments and military pensions are planned to amount to 1,060.9 billion dinars, which is 18.5 percent of the total federal budget. The resources for military pensions and for war disabled veterans' welfare payments have been calculated in keeping with the estimated growth of personal income.

Having explained other sections of the draft federal budget, Rikanovic said that the draft budget, within the limits of the established restrictive framework, presupposes further activities and measures that should ensure that the federal budget outlays be kept within the framework of the planned ration on the revenue side of the budget. The FEC will therefore work out a program of rationalization within the system of state administration and propose changes to the law on the bases of the state administration. It will also propose changes to the law on the bases of the state administration system, on the FED, and on federal organs of administration. In keeping with this, all organs and institutions at the federal level will be obliged to prepare rigorous savings programs and adapt their work programs to the available framework of resources for 1988.

Within this context, it will be necessary to reexamine the possibility of mergers and a rationalization of the services, which in various federal organs carry out similar or identical business. It is necessary to also reexamine the organization and even the justification of the existence of a special air service for federal organs and of special social food services for the employees of federal organs; and also the possibility of restricting expenditures of the post, telephone, and telegraph services; the right to reduced transport fares, official entertainment costs, the right to use official cars, and the like. The possibility of reducing the network of diplomatic and consular missions abroad will also be reexamined, and, within this framework, certain activities in the federal secretariat of foreign affairs have already begun.

According to Rikanovic, 79.6 percent of the total volume of the federal budget expenditure is covered, in keeping with the draft revenues of the federal budget, from the original revenue of the federal budget, and 20.4 percent from the contributions made by the republics and provinces. It should be noted in this context that the concept of the revenue for the federal budget reckons with the existing set of regulations and also with a diminished share in the contributions of the republics and provinces in financing the federal budget from 21.5 percent in 1987 to 20.4 percent in 1988.

In the structure of the revenue of the federal budget, the income on the basis of turnover tax still predominates with a percentage of 47.8. It should be borne in mind that significant changes in the structure and extent of expenditure are expected, especially in favor of the products that are not or are to a lesser extent liable to federal turnover tax, such as is the case with food produce. For these reasons, Rikanovic recalled, a slightly smaller share of the turnover tax in the structure of the revenue of the federal budget has been planned than was the case in 1987 and in some earlier years.

The revenue from custom duties and other import dues and taxes appertaining to the federal budget, and whose share in the overall revenue is estimated at 31 percent, has been planned on the assumption that the import of goods in 1988 will be implemented on the basis of, and to the extent as envisaged in, the draft projection of Yugoslavia's payments balance sheet for next year. It has been calculated that the movement of the foreign currency rates of exchange in 1988 will take place in keeping with the estimated average monthly growth of domestic manufacturing prices and that the average rates of custom duties, import dues, and taxes levied on imported goods will be approximately at the level attained in the course of the first 10 months of 1987.

Because of the need to establish the indispensible minimum conditions for the functions of the federation to be carried out—as these functions are an important factor of stable socioeconomic relations—of consolidation of the defense strength of our country, of the stability of veteran disability welfare, and of more efficient function of the federal organs and organizations, it is indispensible for the revenue of the federation to be adequately secured in time and in keeping with the pace of the commitments as they become due, emphasized Rikanovic. For this reason, and in keeping with the planned balance sheet of the revenue of the federal budget, there arises a serious need to establish a more efficient system of controlled functions by appropriate federal and republican organs. It will also be necessary to tackle a critical analyses of excise and customs facilities.

To plan a fedeeral budget in the conditions of the kind of high-rate inflation, we are having now is a complex and difficult business. The proposed draft budget for 1988 keeps under control expenditure in a considerable part of the overall budget to finance general social requirements in the country. The policy proposed by these documents, particularly from the aspect of the totality of the policy of general and joint expenditure in the country, is in keeping with the basic orientation for the growth of the expenditure to be significantly lower than the growth of

revenue earned in the economy. If this policy is consistently given life it cannot become an encouragement, a reason, or an excuse to put up prices or to accelerate inflation, said Rikanovic at the end of his speech.

Approves Changes to Labor Law

LD180631 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1829 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 17 December (TANJUG)—The Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly today approved the changes and additions to the law on associated labor, ending 2 years of work on the completion of this important law. The adoption of the changes was preceded by a discussion that went on for several hours on a host of amendments submitted by the FEC, the trade unions, assembly committees, work organizations, and delegates.

The final text contains legal bases to overcome the complex situation in associated labor and in our society in general. The new solutions encourage the pooling of labor and resources, tighten up responsibility for administering social resources, and more fully protect social property. At the same time, the draft law strengthens the responsibility to carry out work and self-management commitments and narrows the scope for spreading normativism.

FEC Notes Contribution to Nonaligned Program

LD162146 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1355 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 16 Dec (TANJUG)—At a session today presided over by Janez Zemljaric, the FEC considered and adopted a report on the implementation so far of the fundamental program of measures and activities by Yugoslavia in executing the resolutions of the Eighth Conference of the Heads of States and Governments of the Nonaligned Movement.

Proceeding from Yugoslavia's strategic, economic, and political interests in improving all aspects of its cooperation with nonaligned and developing countries, the FEC noted that since the eighth nonaligned conference, results have been achieved in implementing the program. By its consistent involvement in the efforts to solve topical international problems, our country has made a considerable contribution to the Nonaligned Movement's overall activity, to the consolidation of solidarity among the nonaligned and developing countries, and to the movement's orientation in fulfilling the resolutions of the eighth conference and tackling international issues.

The FEC is reported to have stressed the need for consistently implementing the fundamental program in the economic sphere in light of the deteriorating position in the developing countries and, in particular, because of the serious problem of external indebtedness of these countries. It was stressed in this connection that a consistent implementation of the program is in line with our country's standpoints on the need to step up economic cooperation between the nonaligned and developing countries and especially in the efforts to solve the debt problem.

The FEC also discussed other issues concerning Yugoslavia's economic cooperation with the developing countries. [passage omitted]

Lolic Details LCY Presidium Activities

LD172321 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1358 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 17 Dec (TANJUG)—The last session of the LCY Central Committee aroused great interest among both the party members and the public at large. This fact, together with the nature of the issues discussed at the plenum—the country's socioeconomic development in 1988 and the concept of the LCY conference—have put before all LC organs and organizations the task of drawing up specific programs to implement the set tasks.

In this context Marko Lolic, executive secretary in the LCY Central Committee Presidium, spoke in greater detail about the LCY Central Committee Presidium's activities during his meeting with accredited journalists and chief and responsible editors of public media. There are two essential goals expected to be achieved by fulfilling the established tasks: to create ideopolitical and other necessary conditions for implementing the anti-inflation program and for economic activity once the temporary measures are withdrawn.

Lolic also informed the journalists about other activities facing the Presidium and went on to say that over a very short period of time the LCY Central Committee would hold three sessions. As early as mid-January it will discuss the constitutional changes. Proceeding from the conclusions reached at its last session, the LCY Central Committee is working hard on preparing a plenary session to discuss the Central Committee's and the Presidium's activity in the course of the preparations for the LCY Conference. The third session will consider the ideological and theoretical work within the LC. In Lolic's view, the coming action conference of journalists-communists will be of great importance not only for journalists but for the public, in general, too.

Lolic also said, at the end of the meeting, that the Yugoslav program on Kosovo was also setting major tasks before Yugoslav communists. The program should not be allowed to become yet another in a series of Assembly documents, as it called, for the entire LC to embark on a determined struggle for its implementation, Marko Lolic said.

BORBA Views 'Disunity' of Presidium Members

AU161953 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 11 Dec 87 p 2

[Ivan Torov commentary: "Dissociations and Decisions"]

[Text] Will the issue of Fadilj Hodza's responsibility be an occasion for new ideological divisions and conflicts in Yugoslav party ranks? Since the 11th session of the LCY Central Committee, there have been hints that the answer may be affirmative. What happened in the debate on the draft stands and conclusions on Fadilj Hodza's responsibility—the dissociation from Milan Pancevski's introductory report and the conversion of that report into a speech, that is, his personal stand—only confirms the fact that it is difficult to achieve unity at the top of the party on any of the more significant issues.

How else is one to interpret the obvious difference between the "unifiedness" [jedinstvenost] of the LCY Central Committee Presidium which it proclaimed when the results of the working group (examining the grounds for accusations against Fadilj Hodza) were presented for the first time and the disunity expressed by individual members of that same Presidium at the session of the LCY Central Committee?

True, it seems that the differences arose over the intonation and citations in Milan Pancevski's introductory report, but, after careful analysis, one could hardly accept the opinion that facts and assessments in the introductory report fail to be almost completely identical with the draft stands and conclusions behind which the Presidium "stood unified" before this session. Possible differences are more or less of a linguistic and stylistic nature.

When he rejected the remarks on the formulation of political assessments in his explanation at the end of the debate, Pancevski also said that those formulations were based on the political assessments included in the LCY Platform on Kosovo, documents of the 13th congress, and conclusions of the 9th LCY Central Committee session. "Those assessments are very clear and there should be no subsequent disputes," Pancevski said on that occasion.

Why were there then so many excited reactions to and dissociations from the intonation and contents of the introductory report?

It seems that the answer should be sought rather in the present big ideological disagreements in the divided Yugoslav political arena, than in the usage of facts and assessments that Pancevski, the working group, and the LCY Central Committee Presidium arrived at. The very polemics over the responsibility of Fadilj Hodza—in which very little was said about Hodza himself—has shown all the correctness and justifiability of the initiatives opened (and partly adopted) at that session to the effect that the Central Committee would have to be concerned about and occupied with the present political situation in the country and with all that is happening in the political life and practice of individual republics and provinces.

Any closing of one's eyes to obvious facts, the tactical outwitting of one another, everybody's attempts to implement the unified Yugoslav policy "according to his taste and inclination"—and in doing so, serious disputes are considered to be "normal and understandable differences"—could hardly fit in with frequent assurances of some political officials that there is no reason for great concern.

The debate on Fadilj Hodza's responsibility (which, true, no one seriously disputed) was another specific example that only confirmed that Kosovo still remains our greatest problem. One by one, obvious illusions that the Kosovo drama can be solved by partial and separate measures and actions not involving Yugoslavia—or outside the context of searching solutions for questions pertaining to Yugoslavia and its entire crisis—are shown to be invalid. It has turned out again that correct answers to the Kosovo challenge cannot be found by piling up conclusions and words, behind which there is no true unity of views and actions. But all this often serves as a scene for more ideological bickering and silent mutual settling of accounts.

With all our troubles, all that we need now is the expansion of "Fadiljgate!" ["Fadiljgejt"]

Slovene Presidency Writes SFRY Presidency

AU191645 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 25 Nov 87 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Letter by the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia to the SFRY Presidency on Observations on the Work on Constitutional Changes So Far: Changes—Property of All"]

[Text] Public discussion of the constitutional changes should have started around Republic Day, for according to previous plans, the Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly should have adopted the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution this week.

Nevertheless, the discussion will be delayed until the end of December, because the delegates will not make a decision on the constitutional changes until the middle of next month. One of the most important reasons for this delay could be the increasingly louder protests from Slovenia about the manner of work on the constitutional changes so far. The fact that the suggestion from Slovenia stating that proposals that will definitely get no support from this republic should not be included in the draft amendments was "thrown into the trash can" and the fact that the Federal Constitutional Commission

works on the principle of majority vote, have led to two letters being sent to the SFRY Presidency and the SAWPY Presidium. The former was sent by the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia and the latter by the Presidium of the SAWP of Slovenia. The Slovene view of the constitutional changes is definitely best explained in the letter written by the Slovene Presidency; therefore, we carry it in its entirety.

"On the basis of the report of the Constitutional Questions Commission of the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia, the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia discussed at its 27th session on 4 November the situation created by the preparations of draft amendments after the session of the SFRY Assembly Commission for Constitutional Questions held on 20 October.

"Despite the fact that all Slovene members of the coordination group of the Constitutional Question Commission persisted in their most important views as formulated in the republican constitutional questions commission, their remarks were not accepted nor were they formulated as possible alternative propositions. This means that the Constitutional Commission decides on the text of the constitutional amendments by a majority vote. This is so even when it is a matter of proposals opposed by all the members from one of the republics, disregarding even the fact that the members' stands are backed by the stands of the republican constitutional commission and of the delegate conferences of self-managing organizations and communities convoked by the Slovene SAWP Republican Conference Presidium, and not taking into consideration the fact that such a method of work negatively further affects the constitutional changes procedure and reduces the possibility of achieving the agreement of all the republican and provincial assemblies in the process of endorsing the draft later. We must particularly warn the SFRY Presidency, as the body proposing that the process of changing the SFRY Constitution should begin, that such practice can have negative political consequences.

Basic Principles Without Changes [subhead]

"As you have been informed, the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia formulated its critical remarks, stands, and views on the essential questions included in the SFRY Presidency's proposal on changing the SFRY Constitution as soon as it gave its agreement to the SFRY Presidency's proposal. It supported the orientation of the SFRY Presidency that basic principles of the SFRY Constitution will not be changed. Later, when the SFRY Assembly Constitutional Questions Commission proposed the working draft of the constitutional amendments to the SFRY Constitution to the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber, thorough debates on the draft were held in the SR of Slovenia, particularly in the Constitutional Questions Commission of the Assembly of the SR Slovenia, in its coordination group, and in working groups within the Slovene SAWP. The Constitutional Questions Commission of the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia suggested to the Constitutional Questions Commission of the SFRY Assembly its stands and proposals for reshaping some amendments or making essential additions to them, and especially warned about 16 proposals which, in the Commission's assessment, are of such a nature that, in their interaction, they encroach on the basic principles of the Constitution and change the constitutional relations in the Federation. Therefore the commission proposed that they be either deleted from the draft or, in some cases, be submitted in alternative versions.

"In the spirit of Liberation Front traditions, because of the need to democratize all social life, and, above all, because of the great interest citizens show in constitutional changes, the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia convoked a conference of the delegations of self-managing organizations and communities on 7 November 1987. All debates on the working draft of the amendments to the SFRY Constitution held in the SR of Slovenia were presented and summed up at this conference. The conference was necessary in order that delegates to the SFRY Assembly Federal Chamber coming from the SR of Slovenia could check their stands and views and formulate guidelines for their orientation toward the proposed draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution. After all those discussions and the stands formulated in them, it became clear that some of the proposal for amending the SFRY Constitution cannot be accepted in their present form. The Assembly of the SR of Slovenia also formed its stands on this working draft in the delegates' debate on accepting the proposal that the amendments procedure should begin in the Constitution of the SR of Slovenia. In the part of this proposal that is linked with the changes in the Federal Constitution, the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia took into account only those draft amendments that are not disputable in Slovenia.

The Majority of Proposals To Be Deleted [subhead]

"Only some, and not the most important, proposals of the Constitutional Questions Commission of the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia were accepted at the session of the SFRY Assembly Constitutional Questions Commission on 20 October 1987. The Presidency of the SR of Slovenia states that most of the proposals emanating from the SR of Slovenia suggesting deletion or changing the wording of the draft amendments that are pronouncedly substantial [sadrzajan] in nature have been disregarded. It is a matter of provisions that impinge on the basic principles of the SFRY Constitution or exceed the limits of the proposals by the SFRY Presidency, and that have received no support in the SR of Slovenia. This particularly refers to proposals about monopoly income, the powers of the federation in the field of education and organization of the judicature, the unified foundations of the taxation system, the use of federal law in case it conflicts with a republican law, the powers of the federal court and the federal public prosecutor, and the financing of the Yugoslav People's Army.

"Despite the disputed questions enumerated above, the SR of Slovenia does not reject all the proposed constitutional changes. We support all those proposals that will make possible an enhancement of the basic self-managing production relationship, a strengthening of self-managing sociopolitical position of workers based on the working of market laws, an expansion of the opportunities for the self-managing economic subjects and all other protagonists of work and creativity to joint in modern technological processes, a more rational organization of society, and a more efficient working of the political system. The reasons and arguments because of which the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia thinks that a part of the draft amendments do not realize in a satisfactory way the precepts inscribed in the introductory portion of the SFRY Presidency proposal to initiate the procedure for amending the SFRY Constitution, and that these proposals are in many ways contrary to the basic principles of the SFRY Constitution, have been comprehensively explained in the proposals of the Constitutional Questions Commission of the Assembly of the SR of Slovenia and have been politically confirmed in the positions and precepts of the conference of delegations of self-managing organizations and communities convened by the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Slovenia.

The Positions in Detail [subhead]

"With this letter, the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia wishes to explain in more detail its positions toward the draft of the (31) amendments, which the commission considering unacceptable although it has not buttressed its views with arguments. The SR of Slovenia has supported the proposal that the greatest possible stability and security in financing the Yugoslav People's Army be ensured within the unified federal budget, in the framework of the adopted annual and medium-term plans. Nevertheless, to achieve this goal, we must not change the nature of the Yugoslav People's Army and thus sap the values and foundations of our socialist federal social community. To determine independent sources for financing the Yugoslav People's Army and to actually separate the Yugoslav People's Army funds from the federal budget would objectively alter the nature of the Yugoslav People's Army as a joint armed force of all the working people and citizens of Yugoslavia (Article 240 of the SFRY Constitution). These are the substantial reasons why the draft amendments are not acceptable.

"The Presidency of the SR of Slovenia had actively cooperated in the preparation of the SFRY Presidency proposal to initiate the procedure for amending the SFRY Constitution. We acquainted you orally with our views and positions at SFRY Presidency sessions, and we did so in writing in December 1986 and January 1987. Even at this stage of the proceedings we are obliged to warn the SFRY Presidency—as the initiator of the procedure for amending the SFRY Constitution—of the consequences that may arise unless the differences in views on the several provisions are taken into consideration and overcome in further proceedings. These differences cannot be eliminated by a majority vote or by restricting the formulation to the majority position.

"The Presidency of the SR of Slovenia assesses that, when the several provisions of the SFRY Constitution, as the basic property of all the republics and provinces and all the peoples and nationalities of the SFRY, are to be accepted, the only politically acceptable approach is to formulate the proposed changes by consensus. Only the proposals that are supported by all the republics and both autonomous provinces may play a positive role in the stabilization of the political situation and encourage the rallying of all the social forces on finding a way out of the crisis, and what is even more important, contribute to a quicker and more comprehensive development of our socialist, self-managing society built on a federal principle.

"We therefore propose that the SFRY Presidency should acquaint itself with the course of the work so far on preparing the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution, that it should assess the present situation and problems arising therefrom, and that it should advocate that only those amendments be proposed for public discussion that may be realistically expected to obtain the consent of the assemblies of all the republics and both autonomous provinces."

Papers Comment on 'Internal Party Democracy'

AU151930 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 13 Dec 87 p 13

[Mile Setinc commentary: "The Phantom of Democratic Centralism" carried by Ljubljana DELO—no date given]

[Text] Present events in Serbia, i.e. the irrepressible "differentiation" on the basis of the conclusions of the eighth session of the Serbian Central Committee, have put forward the question of internal party democracy in an unusually cruel form, and together with that—in conformity with the nature of our affairs—the question of political democracy in society in general....

It is even more significant that the trap set for the declared role of the LCY as a "nonparty" by its own statutory orientation, internal political debates, and systemic exclusiveness has manifested itself again. Both groups, "victorious" and "minority," invoke Article 29 of the LCY Statute, which says that that group which was in the minority at a debate has the right to freely express its own orientation, but that it must implement the conclusions of the majority consistently and creatively (!). This would exclude any kind of activity that would hamper or hinder communists' unified action in implementing the adopted stands. Moreover, such hindering means "forming cliques" [grupasenje] and a "factionalist" activity. Such a tenet is really an excellent example of contradiction when a right that has just been adopted (the right to express one's own opinion even when it has

remained in a minority has been applied and still applies to the democratization of relations in our party) virtually abolishes, that is, renders unusable, the obligation connected with it. For how is one to express his own (defeated) opinion without violating the "creative" faithfulness to the conclusions of the majority and the service to the "unified" action?

This is exactly what the executors of the "differentiation" are explaining to the "minority people": When they are explaining their stands (because of which the majority wants to throw them out of the party) and even when they fail to oppose the assertions of those rare Serbian Communists who publicly state that the conclusions of the eighth session have been created to settle accounts with people and not for the sake of a principled policy, then they are destroying party unity and rejecting democratic centralism. Democratic centralism is obligatory to all Serbian Communists wherever they are, in state or in self-managing organs (it is probably unnecessary to stress that Communists form the great majority of leading positions in those organs!). It is, therefore, not at all strange that the party purge mill, switched on at the eighth session, soon turned into the total purge in all political and state organs of the republic.

The specificity of all this lies in the fact that the victorious majority does not have any evident and positive program that would distinguish it in any way from the defeated minority (if we exclude the dispute on the "speed and resoluteness" in implementing party conclusions on Kosovo and even that dispute has, at least for the time being, remained at a very abstract verbal level.) The specificity also lies in another fact—that this conflict is limited to only one republic (and only one part of it at that), although some among the "resolute people" do not conceal desires that the "differentiation" should go beyond the area, further in the entire country.

Therefore we can hope that this "ticking off" of people on secret lists of those who should still be "differentiated," will not continue infinitely, but that it will lead to an all-country party meditation on how to prevent the party, which has been the only one in the world to "abolish" itself as a political party [stranka], in a phantom-like manner from continuing to rule all of political life!

Krunic Views Situation in Kosovo

Addresses Pristina Aktiv

LD171842 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1037 GMT 17 Dec 87

[tExt] Pristina, 17 Dec (TANJUG)—Since the liberation, we have never been through a more difficult time in economic, political, or social relations than today. However, hope is not found in apprehension, nor is the way out in lamentations. Opportunism in the LC spells capitulation. To avoid work and to fail to implement the declared policy is to deviate from the party line. We are all on trial, we are expected to provide example and consistency, Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, said this evening during a conversation with the Pristina political aktiv.

Speaking about current economic difficulties, Krunic made particular reference to the last session of the LCY Central Committee, saying that it had specified tasks facing communists in the country's socioeconomic development in 1988. The focus of the LC's activity, of the efforts by all social forces in the country, and of the overall policy is on finding the way out of the economic crisis, on defeating its principal causes and consequences. We proceeded from the fact that the fundamental goals and tasks of the country's development and economic policy, as outlined by the 13th LCY Congress resolutions and social plans, are not being fulfilled, thus making the whole problem even more serious. Instead of a turnabout, we face an increasingly deepening crisis with all its effects, Krunic said.

It is our view that the main problem affecting both the economy and society at present is high inflation, which is having a destructive effect on the entire economic system and beyond.

In this context, the president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium spoke in detail about the recently adopted Anti-Inflation Program. The program has been adopted, he said, but it nevertheless continues to be rejected despite the appropriate measures adopted by the SFRY Assembly and the standpoints of the 11th LCY Central Committee session on next year's economic and development policy. Social responsibility implies determination in the action to implement the declared policy. In any case, Krunic said, no policy will produce results if there are obstructions to and inconsistency in its implementation.

We must bear in mind, he said, that the execution of the program of measures and activities to reduce inflation is in the hands of the working people, management bodies, organizations of associated labor, delegate bodies, and other social subjects. In other words, its implementation and the speed with which we shall emerge from the economic crisis depend primarily on the degree of involvement of all creative forces. The priority task facing the LC and all organized social forces is thus to invest the utmost efforts in implementing specific development programs.

Commenting on the temporary intervention measures in the sphere of prices, consumption, and distribution of personal income, Krunic said that they are designed to stabilize and overcome all social troublespots that fuel inflation. However, he added, we have already witnessed cases of "circumventing" the price formation system by declaring old products new, etc. This is evidently having a negative effect on the efforts made by society to stabilize the economy. These proverbial and unfortunate

evasions result in increased consumption without support from real income. Luxurious and costly bank headquarters, institutes, and megalomania-inspired buildings were erected at a time when, in maternity wards, two women had to share one bed. This kind of ingenuity produced tens of thousands of holiday cottages financed by social housing funds, etc. Recklessness is behind us, but we are paying a high price for it.

In order to start behaving rationally and economically and to translate words into action, all economic subjects must list their obligations and duties. This refers to individual sociopolitical communities and their organs. In line with this commitment, the LCY Central Committee has drawn up a list of duties for its organs and organizations. Krunic said: We will monitor the way these duties are being performed and invest constant efforts to ensure that they are fulfilled.

Despite the present complex socioeconomic situation, our country will not abandon its policy of helping the development of the underdeveloped and facilitating Kosovo's faster development. It is obvious that the economic situation in Kosovo can be successfully tackled by increased and direct involvement of organizations of associated labor and other economic factors from other parts of the country and primarily by the efforts of the working people of Kosovo in fulfilling their development plan.

Krunic noted that the effects of the pooling of labor and resources between basic organizations of associated labor from other parts of the country and those from Kosovo are more constructive and positive than when resources are secured through the federation fund. This method should become the most widespread form of organization and self-managing pooling in the economy, both in Kosovo and in the country as a whole. The benefits of the direct pooling of labor and resources between basic organizations of associated labor have been demonstrated by the pooling within associated labor in the SR of Serbia and Kosovo.

We must dispel illusions, Krunic said, that Yugoslavia's unity can be built by ignoring the fact that there is also a material aspect to our unity. Our unity reflects historical interests, but at the same time it is developed and enhanced through equality in economic, political and cultural relations. Integration in Yugoslavia cannot be achieved through political pressures, centralism, or state control, but by taking into account socioeconomic interests of all in the process of self-managing decisionmaking.

Equality, according to Krunic, lies primarily in the material basis on which national interests and national identity develop. We have thus pursued for years the policy of equality for which the efforts of the entire community were needed in order to speed up the development of the underdeveloped, to reduce differences in the level of development, and to secure as fast as possible development of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo. Our success was in proportion to our economic capabilities and with the extent to which we knew how to make use of the opportunities. This was, he added, Yugoslav socialist patriotism at work; readiness for self-sacrifice reflected the high degree of awareness about the entirety of interests. In this context, Bosko Krunic submitted a number of figures illustrating society's efforts in implementing the commitment to help Kosovo to develop more quickly. For instance, in the 1961-86 period, the province's social product increased 3.9 times compared with the increase of 3.3 times for the whole country.

In the last 6 years, organizations of associated labor from other areas concluded 197 self-managing agreements with organizations of associated labor from Kosovo. The estimated cost of these agreements amounts to 333,044,000,000 dinars, while the fund's overall resources are 164,141,000,000 dinars. The realization of these agreements should provide employment for 35,235 workers.

It has taken a long time, Krunic said, to understand that the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo is a problem for all Yugoslavia, that the problems are economic as well as political, that they should be dealt with on a long-term basis, that at the same time resolute measures should be applied to cut short counterrevolutionary activity of the Albanian irredentists, and that numerous forms of crude violation of intranational relations and overall stability be eliminated.

It can no longer be denied that extensive measures are being undertaken for the realization of normal, healthy intranational and interpersonal relations which are a condition for a safe and peaceful life and work, which is inherent to our revolutionary program of a socialist self-managing community of equitable nations and nationalities. At the same time, Krunic added, some of the fatal trends and phenomena, such as the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins under pressure, continue to be maintained and reproduced, as well as further divisions on a national basis, destructive activity of irredentists, and increasingly conspicuous activity of Serbian and Montenegrin nationalists. These phenomena cannot destroy the results, but they do not give us the right to be satisfied with achievements, to take a break, and to be complacent about the situation.

The process of the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins is slowing down, but it still has not halted. Their return should be speeded up, and this is possible with organized work, measures, and the willingness of the entire province, by creating conditions for a secure life and work for all people in Kosovo. The unity of action and the mobility of working people are the best guarantee for success and lasting effect in curbing counterrevolutionary activity. Even in crisis situations, we should rely on

the experience gained in the self-managing organization and way of dealing with problems. Any departure from this will pull us into a precipice.

In our country, and thus in Kosovo as well, there is no room for concepts and ways of development other than socialist self-management, nor for any policy other than brotherhood and unity. Without unity, without joint action, there is no way out of crisis. National divisions in Kosovo are useful only to those forces or individuals that do not need this kind of Yugoslavia. The consequences cannot remain in Kosovo alone, experience teaches us this. So there can be no successful struggle for the realization of our orientations without preventing any destructive and in particular nationalistic gesture.

Krunic said that we have a positive program for stabilizing the overall situation in Kosovo, and we will persevere with it. We will not hesitate to cut down mercilessly and resolutely irredentists and any other destructive and nationalistic gesture by using political work and the law.

Speaking of the realization of the ninth LCY Central Committee session conclusions, the president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium said that the leaderships of the Kosovo LC and the Serbian LC have developed very specific and harmonized activity. Though in all this certain results are being achieved, in view of the complexity of the situation we can by no means be satisfied with the achievements. In the next period, our overall social activity must be even more intensified and directed toward general problems in Kosovo, and they should be resolved in accordance with the standpoints of the 13th LCY Congress and the ninth LC Central Committee session.

Assessing the work on changes to the SFRY Constitution and the changes and amendments to the Law on Associated Labor, Krunic said that it is particularly important that this task was approached from the stand of the realization of the decisions of the 13th LCY Congress. In a wide democratic debate on constitutional amendments, most attention should be devoted to the questions of changes to the constitutions of the socialist republics and socialist autonomous provinces, the municipal statutes, and self-mamaging documents of organizations of associated labor.

It is of particular significance that the leaderships of the SR of Serbia, Kosovo and Vojvodina should be directly involved in a speedier way of overcoming differences and in a democratic harmonization of activities on changes to the Constitution. Only in a democratic and public debate can the realization of the role of the SR of Serbia as a state and self-managing sociopolitical community be realized, as well as of the socialist autonomous provinces that are parts of the republic and at the same time with their autonomy incorporated in the system of the federation as its constitutive elements. It is a matter of a practical realization of the well-known stands of the LCY leadership on relations on which unity and togetherness in the SR of Serbia are based.

It is necessary to point out, Krunic said, that in changing the Constitution we have started from big differences, but through a democratic procedure and reaching agreements in the federation, the differences are now almost overcome. We believe that proposed changes to the Constitution, contained in the draft amendments, express the continuity and make another step in the development of socioeconomic relations, the political system, and the constitutional concept of Yugoslav federation. Their essence is on the line of the basic principles of the Constitution and stands of the 13th LCY Congress.

Speaking about the LC and its tasks today, Bosko Krunic stressed that the LCY should be party to a way out of the crisis. The LCY should bear responsibility for the unity and responsibility in the struggle for a way out of the socioeconomic crisis. This will be the subject of a conference in March 1988. The orientation of the Central Committee is that we should openly discuss the problems of the realization of the decisions of the 13th LCY Congress, to openly cut short negative trends in society and the LCY and open up prospects for a further development of society. We have enough strength for this, as well as the available material, cadre, and other potential in society, Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium said at this evening's talks with the Pristina political aktiv.

Addresses Kosovo Municipality Session

LD180000 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1732 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Titova Mitrovica, 17 Dec (TANJUG)—Kosovo has become a topic that today is the concern of analysts and political parties and movements, and even of many countries both near and far. Sometimes this results from misinformation and ill-intentioned political speculation and propaganda in the world, and sometimes this concern arises on the basis of our information about the state of affairs.

This was stated inter alia by Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium. Taking part with Krunic were also Kolj Siroka, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; Azem Vlasi, president of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium; and Dusan Ilic, member of the Serbian LC Central Committee Presidium.

Krunic noted that in the majority of cases we certainly encounter genuine concern and a desire for the problems of Kosovo to be resolved in the best way, and for the stability of Yugoslavia, and therefore also of Kosovo, not to be endangered.

When I said that there is speculation, Krunic added, and ill-intentioned commentaries and assessments of our situation, then I mean that it comes in the main from neighbouring Albania and also from certain counties where there is a concentration of political Albanian emigration and hostile emigre groups from Yugoslavia. As far as we are concerned, we are doing all that we can to improve relations with Albania, to promote them in the economic, cultural, sporting, and every other aspect, to normalize interstate relations generally. Our initiatives in this respect are well-known and our readiness is proven. We are continually proving it anew, but I want to point out that this is not elicited by any particular reasons, but arises out of our foreign policy, the policy of good-neighbourly relations that is constantly being evidenced and affirmed in practice.

However, there is a great deal that is not in keeping with good-neighbourly relations and gives rise to mistrust. These are the constant cases of interference in our internal affairs, the disregard for international obligations arising out of the Helsinki agreement, the constant manifestation of a kind of paternalism towards the Albanian nationalisty in Yugoslavia, laying claims to territory and peoples, and agitation throughout the world against Yugoslavia, etc. Naturally, the problem can be seen from another point of view as well. I think the situation is understandable when it is borne in mind that 130 to 150 parties and movements, almost all the states in the world, cooperate with Yugoslavia, the LC, the Socialist Alliance and the trade unions, while the Albanian Workers' Party cannot. Clearly the problem does not lie on the side, and we must do much more so that the world realizes the truth about our attitudes and our assessments of Albania's interference in our internal affairs.

Our openness for cooperation will continue to be shown in a practical way.

We have just recently set in train initiatives for the further promotion of economic relations. We see this as a good sign regardless of whether commodity exchange increases or remains at the same level. We are in favor of maintaining and developing it and of developing cooperation in all other areas. In this respect, we will also take initiatives. We are pleased that Albania has agreed to take part in a conference of ministers of the Balkan countries. We believe that this will be yet another opportunity for overcoming disagreements and for promoting relations in an organized manner, as befits neighboring countries, and bridging the rifts between us.

We are likewise concerned that in certain countries of Western Europe and the United States the activity of political emigre groups generally, and Albanian ones in particular, is tolerated. Hand-in-hand with this goes the ill-intentioned and untruthful depiction of the situation in Yugoslavia. The friendly relations we have with some countries of the West do not go together with the hypocrisy that is manifested in this way. We consider that this is very harmful for our relations and can be damaging for the friendly relations with those countries, the more so since we know that there exists particular tolerance of enemies who are even prepared to carry out serious crimes against Yugoslavia.

Speaking about establishing the political accountability of a group of former Kosovo officials, Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, noted that these measures have indeed come late, but that they nevertheless open up the way for the further intensification of differentation in Kosovo. It is mistaken to believe, Krunic added, that the measures that have been taken against these people are a reflection of cases of excess. Rather it is a question of the accountability of people who have contributed to the growth of Albanian nationalism and separatism. The favorable atmosphere and situation created by the ideopolitical measures taken against a number of former Kosovo officials should be taken advantage of for the greater mobility and unity of the progressive forces in Kosovo in stabilizing the situation in this province.

Noting the importance of the Yugoslav program for Kosovo, Krunic particularly stressed the positive fact that it was adopted unanimously which, as he said, speaks of the increasing awareness that Yugoslavia must join forces in Kosovo. Krunic stressed in this connection the need for the consistent implementation of the measures of the Yugoslav program for halting the emigration and noted the particular responsibility of the progressive forces in Kosovo. Krunic also stressed the need to offer support to the progressive forces in Kosovo for stabilizing the situation.

Following the meeting of the Titova Mitrovica LC Municipal Committee Presidium, Bosko Krunic and his colleagues took part in the work of the political-economic aktiv of the Trepca composite organization of associated labor.

Kosovo Local LC Discusses Slogan Assessments

AU191712 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 10 Dec 87 p 11

[M. Vujovic report: "Incomplete Assessments"]

[Text] Kosovska Gracanica, 9 Dec—Yesterday evening's meeting of the Presidency of the Gracanica Regional LC Committee concluded that the assessments made by the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium and the Presidency of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo of the recent demonstrations of women of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality and the character and essence of the slogans voiced at them should be supplemented and made more specific. As the majority of speeches said, organized forces have extended their control over all protest gatherings, at least in this area of Pristina Commune. They were accepted by the people

that gathered, and they reacted to all the provocations of individuals. However, it was said that there had been no unacceptable slogans, as cited in the assessments, in this region.

Predrag Lazic, president of the Gracanica LC Regional Committee, stressed that the Presidium and the Presidency had dealt more with the consequences than with the causes that led to Serbian and Montenegrin women organizing themselves and gathering. It has been forgotten, he said, that people are losing patience and confidence. He supported this remark with the fact that differentiation has been blocked, that only symbolic progress has been reported in this field, that most perfidious attacks and forms of pressure on Serbs and Montenegrins are still evident, that we are faced with the fact of 30,000 Serb and Montenegrin emigrations since 1981, and that these are the principal causes of the self-organization and gatherings and of the recent demonstrations of women. It has nowhere been said up until now that these demonstrations were nationalist, although it is a fact that assemblies of such self-organized kind do not really contribute to settling the total situation in Kosovo, Lazic said.

In his opinion, the assessments of some of the slogans are tendentious and as such cannot be accepted. The slogans "We want freedom" and "Kosovo is Serbia" can only worry those who do not like Kosovo in the SR of Serbia and hope that it is separated from Yugoslavia.

He said too that the gatherings of Serbs and Montenegrins, and at the recent women's demonstrations some desperate people who, in the search for justice, strive for the worst, as well as various careerists and others who proffer national conflicts and therefore should be named by the security service.

Progressive forces should have responded promptly to the statement of Fadilj Hodza and to other attacks and assaults against the Serbian and Montenegrin people, not covering up events in the way that they did, Sveta Dimitrijevic said. In addition, the slogan "We want freedom" is fully justified, because many people think twice about whether they should go fishing or to which doctor they should go, and Serbian and Montnegrin children are not free even in their schools, and this cannot be considered full freedom, Dimitrijevic pointed out.

Zahir Gashi thought these gatherings express utter distrust in the provincial leadership, and considered that there is no real reason for them, because the people at the head of the province and of the country are struggling against all nationalisms equally, and nobody therefore has the right to reject the assessments of the Presidium and the Presidency.

In conclusion Hilmi Osmani, executive secretary of the Pristina Communal LC Committee, said that the assessments must be accepted as information, and that nothing new could be added to them because good arguments were presented. He also stated that the assessments of the Presidium and the Presidency are aimed against all nationalisms and that for that reason we cannot lose confidence in the state and party leadership.

Slovene Writers Criticize Human Rights Record

AU161619 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 8 Dec 87 p 14

[V. Simonovic report: "A Sentence to Silence"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 7 Dec—On the occasion of Human Rights Day on 10 December, the administrative committee of the Slovene Writers' Association and it's Commission for the Protection of Thought and Writing, sent an open letter to the public and the public prosecutors of the SFRY and the SR of Slovenia, in which they stated that Yugoslavia badly violates these rights on its territory, even though it is a signatory of these rights and their declared supporter in world forums.

Citing several examples of the violation of human rights under the guise of punishing political crimes, the committee supported a revision of the "old justice" trial that was held in Ljubljana in 1947 and of the trial against Islamic fundamentalists, as well as the release from jail of the Albanian writer Adem Demaci.

In the letter, it says that in recent months, the police have tried to allege criminal offenses against people whom the authorities do not like. As an example of this the writers cited the suspicion thrown on the editorial board of KATEDRA of participation in drug trafficking and the police raid in the Ljubljana tourist hotel on the room of Vinko Oslak, member of the Slovene Writers Association, employed at the "Mohorjeva Zalozba" in Klagenfurt. It was established that the raid was a mistake, but the writers assert that the police knew in advance that this would be the case, but it did not stop them from forcing their way into Oslak's room. Moreover, the writers state that Vinko Oslak is the secretary of the review CELOVSKI ZVON. It is well-known that the last two editions of this Slovene review were not made available to Slovenes in Slovenia. "Is the forced entry into the room of the review's secretary perhaps the police's contribution to the Slovene joint cultural arena?"

The committee also supported a revision of the "old justice" trial that was initiated and staged in 1947 in Ljubljana and at which, according to the writers, "the new rulers used the model of brotherly, Stalinist purges to settle accounts with a circle of Slovene patriots, intellectuals who did not belong to the party. They made them appear criminals and traitors. Crtomir Nagodet and Boris Furlan were executed and others were given heavy sentences. Since some of the victims of the trial are still alive, we think that it is the duty of our society to apologize for the suffering they, although innocent were condemned to."

This time as well the committee pointed to Article 133 of the Criminal Code that the writers claim contradicts the Declaration on Human Rights. It is also particularly anxious about the fate of Melika Salihbegovic, who was released from prison at the end of her sentence for participating in an "Islamic fundamentalist group formed ad hoc in court." [sentence as received] We advocate a revision of this so-called trial against Islamic fundamentalists and a suspension of the sentence of the innocent victim of this trial, Alija Izetbegovic, the author of the Islamic declaration, the letter emphasized.

The writers wrote that the authorities' behavior has forced Melika Salihbegovic into a hopeless situation and made her into a permanent victim. "It seems that the fate chosen particularly for political criminals is: humiliation and exhaustion to death."

The writers pointed out that they had joined with the Serbian Writers' Association's Committee for the Protection of Artistic Freedoms in advocating the release from jail of the Albanian writer, Adem Demaci, who has already served 20 years in Nova Gradiska.

"Since the Federal Secretariat for Justice has not answered our open letter, we again ask it publicly how it is possible that an Albanian writer serves a sentence longer than our law envisages. The Federal Secretariat for Justice offers nothing to the public to prove that such an inhuman sentence is at all possible. What right does the Federal Secretariat have to keep quiet in a situation where precisely because of its silence we, the citizens of this state, are disgraced before societies that still think of us in a friendly way?"

We have pointed out only some examples—it is emphasized in the letter signed by Rudi Seligo, president of the Slovene Writers' Association, and, on behalf of the commission, its president, Veno Taufer, as well as Milan Agih, Milan Dekleva, Peter Levec, and Dane Zajc—including the recent one of the effective confirmation of the sentence of a 4-year public silence given to Dobroslav Paraga. "What sort of courts are these which can sentence citizens to silence?"

Army Weekly Comments on FEC Critics

AU041624 Belgrade NARODNA ARMIJA in Serbo-Croatian
No. 2524 26 Nov 87 p 1

[Unsigned editorial: "Instead of a Festive Address: Chances and Challenges of the Times"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted]—For a long time, crisis has prevailed throughout all economic bases and superstructures and it seems there is no end in sight. This harsh reality puts pressure particularly on those strata of our working people and citizens who are most severely affected by the crisis. [passage omitted] Several times, a voice has been heard from some public platforms saying that the crisis is negatively reflected in the moral and political state of the largest echelon of defenders of this country.

Most often a voice of impatience comes from these strata: How do we get out of this crisis?

The answers are very different, often antagonistic to the point of intolerance. Into this framework of intolerance are placed those actions of the LC and the organs of the federal state that are geared to finding a way out of this mist of crisis, so that the FEC is often the almost obsessive target of some "critics." The absurdity is that the measures of the "federal government" for the rehabilitation of our economic organism are pronounced futile in some quarters even before they are adopted.

We need criticism today, just as we needed it yesterday and will need it tomorrow. However, we do not need destructive criticism that fails to recognize the values of our revolution and, under a veil of total demystification, pillories everything that it proclaims in its petit bourgeois way to be sinful. We need reasoned, constructive criticism whose philosophical meaning and vital strength are contained in the well-known standpoint of the LCY, according to which nothing is so sacred, so perfect, and so final that it cannot be even better, more progressive, and more humane tomorrow. [passage omitted]

The Yugoslav self-managing socialist community indeed needs unity, but a unity that is a creative dialectical synthesis, which respects and considers differences and is not a barren uniformity. Frequent deviations lead to an autarkic consciousness and nationalistic intolerance, or to the no-less dangerous view on the "abolition" of republics, provinces, and communes, and even of man as a creative being. Even well-intentioned citizens can fall into the traps of this nihilistic radicalism, since this "revolutionary alternative" is attractive because it is simple. Great things are most often simple, but every simplicity does not by any means have to be great.

Perhaps, as some people maintain, there are still no great ideas within us that would open up opportunities for us to emerge from the troubles that we have been in for years and that would ease our entry into the planetary scientific technological revolution. Nevertheless, chances and challenges of the times do exist. [passage omitted]

MLADINA Article Termed 'Political Provocation'

AU171628 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
5-6 Dec 87 p 6

[N. Butorovic report: "Political Provocation"]

[Text] Zenica, 4 Dec—The Zenica Committee for All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection released a statement yesterday on the MLADINA deception, and

the same evening the LC Communal Committee discussed press reporting on Zenica.The statement says, among other things that, "at the session held on 2 December 1987, the Zenica commune's Committee for All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection within the framework of its regular activities, was acquainted with the contents of a text printed in the Ljubljana publication, MLADINA, in the "Readers' Letters" column, in which a letter to the Council Presidium of the Yugoslav Trade Union Federation was published, supposedly from the Zenica Steel Works Work Organization."

Violated Ethics [subhead]

Among other things, the letter states that the workers of the Zenica steel works had supposedly "founded an independent trade union and formed an aktiv of the new Communist Party of Yugoslavia" and besmirched in an impudent way the most responsible officials in the republic and the country. In its 25 November 1987 edition, the Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI carried parts of this letter, along with a commentary by two of its correspondents (one of whom is from Zenica, and only their initials were published) and thus uncritically and highly incorrectly gave publicity to the letter published in MLADINA.

The Committee for All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection believes that publishing the text in the magazine MLADINA, without prior verification of the facts, was crude political provocation, a basic violation of journalistic ethics (the publishing of anonymous letters), and a violation of moral norms (an offense to many individuals). This was an attempt to undermine the political system of socialist self-management, a conscious negation of the process of democratization and the public nature of the work of the LC, the trade union federation, and other subjective factors in our sociopolitical community and the Zenica steel works, in overcoming the difficulties we are facing.

Working people, citizens, and the youth in our sociopolitical community and especially in the Zenica steel works have many times confirmed their loyalty to the system of socialist self-management and their confidence in the correctness of LC policy. The Committee for All-People's Defense and Social Self-Protection, therefore, considers the founding of some sort of "aktiv of a new Communist Party of Yugoslavia" a huge provocation and an attempt to draw attention away from the LC communal organization's action to look critically at its work over the last 2 years and to identify its own weaknesses, it was said in the statement.

Bad News [subhead]

In the framework of discussions on the political security situation, the LC communal committee session last night discussed journalism. "Recently the press has been reporting on Zenica in a biased way. The newspapers have been full of bad news although everything is not so black," said Nedeljko Bradosevic, president of the Zenica veterans' organization, while criticizing articles published in the local press and in some other newspapers and claiming that lies were spreading and communal functionaries were being attacked.

Assessing that pre-election activity in the communal party organization had remained unnoticed by the press, Ljiljana Poljak, president of the communal committee, said that the press issue should not be an obstacle to regular activities, although this was perhaps the aim of the press. "We do not want to confront the media, but they must serve the life of this sociopolitical community. In such a situation, one need not use the opportunities and methods available to us under the LC statute and other documents. It would not be proper to take away credentials and close down sources of information, either, but the Socialist Alliance should call individuals to account on the basis of facts," says Poljak.

Dzemal Mutapcic, the district public prosecutor, assessed that the article in the Belgrade VECERNJE NOVOSTI on the letter from the 25 November MLADINA was not well-intentioned. He informed the LC communal committee that the Basic Public Prosecutor's Office was checking whether there was a possibility of filing criminal charge for spreading false news.

Religious Instruction for Youths Opposed

LD212202 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1608 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Skopje, 21 Dec (TANJUG)—Members of the Macedonian Commission for Relations with Religious Communities today concluded that society must continue to oppose activity by religious communities that is not in accordance with legal regulations. General knowledge and awareness on the essence of religion and the activities of religious communities must be improved.

In connection with the initiative of Skopje Assembly for a change in the law on the legal position of religious communities, which would prevent those people under 15 from attending religious instruction, the republican commission stated that it has been accepted by all the municipal commissions for relations with religious communities in Macedonia. The Republican commission supports this initiative, the report states, but considers that it should be improved.

Krunic Greets CPCZ'S Jakes on Election

LD181650 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1508 GMT 18 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, December 18 (TANJUG)—League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Presidency President Bosko Krunic today sent a telegram of congratulations to newly elected Czechoslovak Party General Secretary Milos Jakes.

Milos Jakes was elected to the post yesterday at a Czechoslovak Party Central Committee Plenum when former General Secretary Gustav Husak's resignation was accepted.

Taking over the post, Jakes yesterday said that the Czechoslovak party's policy, established at last year's congress as a program of gradual economic reforms and democratization of society, will not be changed.

Gorbachev's Upcoming Visit Discussed

LD172248 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1856 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 16 Dec (TANJUG)—An upcoming visit by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Yugoslavia at the beginning of next year, is an opportunity not only for a useful exchange of views on bilateral relations, but also on the results of his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, which bring new, significant changes, in particular in the area of disarmament.

This was stressed by Dr Vasil Tupurkovski, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, in today's talk with Yugoslav and foreign journalists in the International Press Center in Belgrade.

He said that progressive parties in West European countries, the partners of the LCY in international cooperation, were giving great support to Yugoslavia in its efforts to solve the problem of debts, carry out the stabilization of the economy, and develop cooperation with the European Community.

In response to the question on the stand of the LCY on the position of our national minorities in the neighboring countries, Tupurkovski said that these questions were open in relations with Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, and Albania. It is also necessary to make some efforts to solve the problems of our national minorities in Austria and Italy, he stressed.

In this connection, Tupurkovski pointed out, it is necessary to respect the existing specific characteristics and stress the principled stand that the rights of minorities are one of the bases of the Yugoslav policy in good-neighborly cooperation. Though our clear stand is not met with understanding by some partners, it is necessary to insist on changing the situation. On the other hand, Tupurkovski said, minorities themselves should fight for their problems to be solved.

Tupurkovski, in particular, commented on Yugoslav-Albanian relations, saying that no progress has been made in this area. However, he added, there have been some positive indications in recent bilateral contacts and in the announcement that Albania will take part in the ministerial meeting of the Balkan countries in Belgrade.

He also recalled that in Greece a wide political consensus had been reached on the notion that the problem of minorities did not exist, and that the existence of the Macedonian minority in that country was not recognized. In cooperation with PASOK [Panhellenic Socialist Movement], of example, the LCY is making efforts to realize the most positive form of cooperation, but it does not close its eyes to the failure to respect the rights of the Macedonian minority. This question makes more difficult the development of bilateral ties, and its solution depends on the further democratization of relations in Greece, Tupurkovski assessed.

In response to the question on the position of our national minorities in Austria, Tupurkovski said that the socialist party of that country was giving principled support to the solving of the existing problems. The most recent events connected with educational divisions in Carinthia are not the last word on the matter and there will be new questioning of issues and influences exercised so that this question is adequately solved, Tupurkovski said.

Assessing the situation in the international workers' movement and socialism in the world, Tupurkovski, in particular, dwelt on reforms in socialist countries. He assessed that these processes indicated that the model of real socialism had exhausted its historical importance. Therefore, reforms, which in were being carried out in a specific way in some socialist countries, were having a great overall impact.

Democratization is also under way in the international workers' movement, which indicates that divisions among progressive forces are being overcome, Tupurkovski assessed. The significance of bloc alignement is also diminishing, while cooperation at the world level is strengthening, which will affect the solving of international problems and the content of socialism as a world process. At the same time, Tupurkovski stressed, the LCY is developing its concept of international relations on the principle of respecting the right of each party to an independent way, noninterference in other's internal affairs and the responsibility of each party before its own working class and nation.

He assessed that because of the negative impact of the growing wave of conservatism and anticommunism in the eighties, a crisis was brought about in the Eurocommunist movement, which had until then realized significant results and influenced the development of relations in West Europe.

Speaking about relations between the LCY and progressive parties and liberation movements of nonaligned and developing countries, Tupurkovski stressed that cooperation was developing. He illustrated this with positive results of recent visits by the LCY delegation to the parties in southern Africa, when talks were also held about concrete questions of cooperation between our economy and partners from that part of the world.

The member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium was also asked about the expenses incurred by international cooperation of the LCY. Without stating a concrete figure, Tupurkovski said that the amount was not too big. He said that the expenses of the LCY cooperation had to be included within the framework of the policy of the economic stabilization, but this did not mean that international cooperation should be viewed entirely through a financial aspect. The achievements so far achieved in this area should not be forgotten, nor the fact that the future development of Yugoslav society also includes an important international component, he concluded.

Israeli Delegation Arrives 19 Dec
LD192331 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1714 GMT 19 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, December 19 (TANJUG)—A group of prominent representatives of non-governmental organizations of Israel, headed by President of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace Dr Matjahu Peled, arrived today in Belgrade at the invitation of the leadership of the Socialist Alliance of Yugoslavia.

During a meeting with the Israeli delegation, Yugoslav Socialist Alliance leadership member Mirko Ostojic expressed Yugoslavia's concern over the latest developments and the escalation of violence and repressions on the Jordan West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Ostojic also said that all peaceful and democratic forces of the Israeli society that are building prospects for cooperation with the PLO, the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, can play a positive role in solving the Middle East crisis.

The Israeli delegation will over the next few days visit Belgrade and Ljubljana, capital of the Republic of Slovenia.

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